

Hafa Adai!

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75¢

## Star Marianas raises rates for Rota flights



### Convertible cars helping boost CNMI tourism

By BEA CABRERA  
beacabrerasaipan@gmail.com  
CORRESPONDENT

There is never a day on Saipan that we don't see col-

orful convertible Mustangs and Chevrolet Camaros on the road driven by tourists. Choices come in red, yellow, pink, and Hello Kitty-

or American flag-decorated cars. They will be rolling rain or shine, as these are the cars

See CONVERTIBLE on Page 4



BEA CABRERA  
Two Chinese tourists rent a pink Camaro for a day to go around the tourist spots on island. "I love the color Pink and we will have fun seeing the sights in this car," one of the ladies said.

### Man promised work at casino construction site entered CNMI as tourist

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE  
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REPORTER

A man, who was allegedly recruited from China on promises of work at a casino

construction site, entered the CNMI as a tourist and illegally worked as a construction worker and driver for tourists on Saipan.

Kedong Huang, 32, was

arrested by federal agents last Thursday.

The U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) filed a criminal complaint last Friday charging Huang with

false representation and concealment of a material fact from U.S. Customs and Border Protection officers.

Assistant U.S. attorney

See MAN on Page 4

### INSIDE



#### BUSINESS

The European Union and Japan are signing a widespread trade deal Tuesday that will eliminate nearly all tariffs.

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#### NATION

The Republican and Democratic parties and former intelligence officials appeared shocked, dismayed and uneasy with President Donald Trump's suggestion that he believes Putin's denial of interfering in the 2016 elections.

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#### LIFE & STYLE

Porn star Stormy Daniels is set to return to Ohio next month, three weeks after her arrest at a Columbus strip club on charges that were later dropped.

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# Local

## New school to incorporate island history, culture in curriculum

By FAHIM UDDIN  
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REPORTER

Isla Montessori School in Dandan will incorporate the island's culture and history, setting it apart from other schools on the island, according to founder Susan Book.

Speaking before yesterday's Rotary Club of Saipan meeting at the Hyatt Regency Saipan, Book said the school would be the first Montessori

school in the CNMI.

"We are a school that is striving to provide an authentic Montessori education here on island, bringing it for children [and] making it more accessible for different groups around the island," she said.

Currently, the Carolinian Cultural Affairs Office, Northern Marianas Trades Institute, and Commonwealth Council for Arts and Culture are assisting the program by building

shelves and shaping the courses of Saipan historical study for children to grasp upon.

Also, Isla Montessori children house guide Diana Silveira and Book are adding the first language curriculum highlighting Chamorro and Carolinian. Book also said reef awareness will be part of their learning program, "I am actually using a model of a coral reef to teach language and grammar

in the classroom."

"We are working to connect our children with our plants, our animals, our ocean, and our land. Wonderful, wonderful folks are helping to develop a learning garden," Book said.

Their purpose is to provide the needed training for children to become Montessori teachers in the future by teaching them the Montessori method.

"We want to hold their hand

as they open up another classroom and another village." She adds by following this agenda, the Montessori school will keep growing.

"It's going to take some time. But this is how much we believe in this and we want a classroom in every village, we want a classroom on Tinian, we want a classroom on Rota," said Book.

She goes on to say that children should connect with their elders in order to gain the insights of the island heritage and the better understanding of the world.

Similar to Maria Montessori, Isla Montessori School

holds an impression of community service. During Maria's time in Italy from 1922-1934, she taught this primary aspect to orphans. Book relates Maria's objective to her mission, "...giving back to our community is something that our elementary-age children is an requirement—service hours, participation, beach cleanup..."

In August, they will be presented with the 501 (c) (3) non-profit status through the contributions of the Education Tax Program. Book indicates that they are recently gaining simple donations, feeling accomplished for it.

## NMTI to have facility for Tinian and Rota students

By JON PEREZ  
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REPORTER

The Northern Marianas Trades Institute is moving ahead in opening a separate facility on Saipan that would accommodate students from Tinian and Rota as it continues to expand services to the community.

NMTI chief executive officer Agnes McPhetres mentioned this as among her key accomplishment since heading the learning institution almost four years ago.

"Activity has begun with respect to facility needs by working on plans to design and construct a future career and technical education/training center [for Tinian and Rota]," said McPhetres.

"This will include living quarters for students from Rota and Tinian, classrooms and shops to accommodate all identified programs, administrative offices, a learning center, a student center, other amenities, and other campus-related needs."

The center will be located in a 6.9-hectare public land (TR 57-3) near Saipan Southern High School in Koblerville. The Legislature approved the site allocation through a joint resolution.

NMTI is also working on the development of a five-year strategic master plan where it is expecting another increase in enrolment.

NMTI has already partnered with the CNMI State Public School System where various vocational skills will be offered to high school students, particularly those in their senior year where they could get a chance to get hired once they graduate.

NMTI has also established a

working relationship with the local government—administration and Legislature—the CNMI business sector and community, and partnerships with Guam and across the mainland U.S.

Former administrators and instructors at the Northern Marianas College as well as personnel from various local industries were also hired as instructors in the different programs offered.

NMTI has also expanded its programs offered from four—automotive technology, construction technology, culinary arts, and hotel and restaurant operations—in school year 2013-2014 to 15 in SY 2017-2018.

The four programs are still being offered with the addition of adult technical high school, carpentry, electricity, electronics, electronic systems technician, professionalism heavy equipment operations, heating, ventilation, and air conditioning (HVAC), power generation maintenance (mechanic and electrician), and welding trades.

NMTI has also signed a memorandum of agreement with major Saipan hotels and other businesses to help with the training of their students from their qualified personnel or the use of their facilities for internship.

Various activities to increase NMTI's revenues were also implemented like seeking donations from the local business sector through the CNMI Education Tax Credit, fundraising events, financial allocation from the local Legislature, and applying for federal grants.

Prospective students can now avail of various scholar-

See NMTI on Next Page

# Happy PARENTS DAY

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## Ex-Rota senator, retired Rota cop file candidacies

» **19, mostly from Rota, file candidacies so far**

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE  
ferdie.delatorre@saipantribune.com  
REPORTER

Former Rota senator Jovita Maratita Taimanao and retired Rota police officer Joel Gogue Charfauros filed yesterday their candidacies as independents for Senate seats.

Taimanao, accompanied by some supporters, submitted her petition for nomination at the Commonwealth Election Commission in Susupe yesterday afternoon.

It is a crowded race on Rota. Seven are running for two Rota Senate seats, five are battling for the mayoral seat, and three will be duking it out for a lone House position.

CEC acting executive director Kayla Igitol said for Charfauros, he filed his candidacy before CEC Rota commissioner Leilani I. Manglona.

Manglona then notified the CEC office yesterday morning about Charfauros' submission of nomination.

Last Friday, Malcolm Ja-

## LibDay activities on July 18

The 2018 Liberation Day festivities continues today, July 18, at the Garapan Fishing Base starting 6pm with a night filled with food, drinks, entertainment, games, BINGO, trivia giveaways, and more.

Entertainment today will be Little Hands at 7pm, Studio M at 7:30pm, Tahiti Nui at 8pm, Nien Hotte at 9pm, Cab Dancers at 8:30pm, and Ray Peter at 9:30pm. Entertainment on July 19 will be YX Model Beijing at 7pm, Saipan Music & Dance Studio Philippines at 8pm, Big Jay at 8:30pm, and Teivi Maori at 9pm. For more information, visit [www.facebook.com/cnmiliberation-day](http://www.facebook.com/cnmiliberation-day). (PR)

## NMTI

From Page 2

ship opportunities and financial assistance programs to help them pay for their training aside from serving as a reward in choosing the vocational trades.

The plans and other improvements helped NMTI's enrolment skyrocket from 63 five years ago to 644 for SY 2017-2018.

son Omar filed his candidacy as an independent for House of Representatives under precinct 4.

Precinct 4 covers Tanapag, San Roque, and Capitol Hill areas.

Last Friday, Lucia Song-

song Manglona also filed her candidacy as a non-partisan for the Rota Municipal Council.

Nineteen, mostly from Rota, have filed their candidacies so far since the submission of petitions for nomination started

last July 9.

Aug. 8 is the deadline for submission of nominating petitions and candidacy.

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## TRIUMPHANT

From Page 1

Early this month, Erica Tubera, Lawrence Tubera, and Cire Durano left Saipan and made the journey to Long Beach, California to represent the islands in the 2018 World Championships of Performing Arts where they went up against competitors from over 70 countries.

The trio is scheduled to return to the CNMI today and according to multiple posts they've made on their social media accounts, the trio has made the Marianas proud with the amount of awards

they will bring home from the competition.

Erica Tubera will be returning home from WCOPA with two scholarships to the New York Conservatory for Dramatic Arts worth over \$15,000.

Lawrence Tubera will be returning home from the WCOPA with a bronze medal in the Junior Vocal Broadway category, a silver medal in the Junior Vocal Pop category, and a gold medal in the Junior Vocal R&B/Soul/Jazz category.

Durano will be returning home from the WCOPA with a silver medal in the Open Style category.

According to Durano, if it weren't for all the support that they received from friends, family, and especially the CNMI, they wouldn't be able to venture out of the island they call home and chase their dreams.

"I'd like to say thank you to the Lord for guiding us all the way here [WCOPA] and especially Erica Tubera [if] not because of her I wouldn't be able to make it here. Also to all my friends...my parents, and to our beloved governor Ralph DLG Torres [who] helped us the most, thank you so much. This [was] such a great experience," he said.

Durano said that the best

thing about their first WCOPA experience has to be the bond that all the competitors shared.

"The best thing about this trip [was] all the different countries treating each other like a family," he said.

According to a previous article on the *Saipan Tribune*, Erica Tubera said that in the process of conducting a background check on her, the World Championships of Performing Arts also discovered her brother and her boyfriend [Durano].

"A few months ago, I saw an ad online about the World Championships of Performing Arts. I decided to go and register. A few days later, I

got an email from the recruiter who asked more about me. She looked through my YouTube channel and my social media accounts there and found my brother, Lawrence, and also Cire. She did more

of her research and she told me that she wanted them to join, too, but she will have to show our profiles to the agents to see if we meet the criteria to join this competition," she said.

## MAN

From Page 1

James J. Benedetto, counsel for the U.S. government, filed yesterday an information charging Huang with one count of improper entry by alien.

Huang was taken before U.S. District Court for the NMI Chief Judge Ramona V. Manglona last Monday for his initial court appearance. Benjamin Petersburg was appointed as court-appointed counsel for the defendant.

Huang immediately entered a plea deal with the U.S. government. When *Saipan Tribune* left the courtroom late afternoon yesterday, Manglona was still conducting a change of plea hearing.

According to the information, on March 6, 2017, Huang, a citizen of the People's Republic of China, knowingly obtained entry to the U.S. by a willfully false and misleading misrepresentation.

Huang misrepresented to CBP inspectors that his purpose for entering the U.S. was for "tourism," when in fact he intended solely to find work and reside in the U.S. beyond the time permitted under the CNMI-only conditional parole program.

In his affidavit in support of criminal complaint, Homeland Security Investigations ICE special agent Michael D. Lansangan disclosed that last Thursday HSI personnel responded to the Francisco C. Ada-Saipan International Airport pursuant to a duty call received from CBP officers.

Lansangan said HSI agents encountered Huang, whom CBP officers initially confirmed to be a CNMI-only conditional parole overstayer.

Lansangan said Huang allegedly admitted entering the CNMI as a tourist and working illegally without authorization.

Lansangan said Ports Police officers referred Huang to CBP officers after encountering him during a traffic violation outside the Saipan airport.

Huang was allegedly told numerous times by ports police officers not to park in a certain location at the airport and to move his vehicle.

Ports police determined that Huang did not appear to speak English, does not have a passport, and does not have a Saipan driver's license.

CBP officers confirmed from the record that Huang

overstayed his CNMI-only conditional parole validity date by more than 400 days.

Lansangan said during their interview, Huang stated that he was a construction worker in China for seven years prior to coming to Saipan.

While in China, Huang allegedly met a person from Saipan through the "We-Chat" messaging application on the internet.

Huang said the Saipan person told him he can work at a casino construction site on Saipan and earn \$2,000 per month, plus high overtime pay.

The Saipan man allegedly promised Huang that he will find him a job on Saipan and arrange for a work visa when he arrived on the island.

The Saipan man told Huang to pay him \$6,000 when he arrives on the island for assistance in finding a job.

Huang stated he traveled to Saipan by himself and arrived on March 5, 2017.

Lansangan said subsequent record checks revealed that Huang traveled with his wife.

Huang stated that he met the Saipan man in person on his third day on Saipan.

He said the Saipan man contacted him on WeChat then visited him at his hotel.

The Saipan man told Huang he could stay at the construction site, but he declined. Huang then paid him \$1,350 in cash and told him that the remaining balance was to be deducted from his monthly pay at \$1,000 per month.

Lansangan said according to Huang, the Saipan man took him to the casino construction site the following day.

Three days later, the Saipan man took Huang to a different construction site, but that he did not work there that day.

Huang said he began working on March 10, 2017, but stated he did not work at the large casino construction site because they did not need his construction specialty at that time.

Huang said he was picked up every day by car and driven to the construction site to work. He identified the boss at the construction site as only a local man.

Huang stated that he now works for himself and his job involves taking tourists around Saipan.

Huang posts his information on WeChat and tourist clients reach him through WeChat. He stated that he earns an average of \$1,000 to \$2,000 per month.

## CONVERTIBLE

From Page 1

of choice for tourists whether for long-term rental or just for a day tour around the island.

According to QQ Car Rental president James Han, rental of convertible cars is one of the reasons why tourists come to Saipan.

"When tourists are considering two destinations, let's say same island, same price and they find out we have convertible rental cars on Saipan, they make a decision to come here. Koreans choose between Saipan and Jeju Island and Jeju can be lower in cost but they don't have convertible cars there so we capture that market to choose Saipan instead," he said.

"Seventy percent of our customers are from China and the remaining 30 percent is the Korean and Japanese markets. The Chinese market is our leading customer when it comes to convertible cars," he added.

QQ Car Rental manager Jack Bao gives the reason why the Chinese market is their No. 1 customer. "Back in China, they don't have a choice to drive open cars. They choose the bright-colored convertibles because back home, cars are mostly white, black, and silver."

"These muscle cars give them freedom while they take pictures of the beach, mountains, and the beautiful

scenery of the island. The open car makes them see everything and take pictures so they can post on social media for their family and friends to see," Bao added.

These American muscle cars gives tourists a complete feel of vacationing in a territory of United States of America, a life in the glamorous fast lane even if they spend \$100-120 a day.

Marianas Visitors Authority managing director Chris Concepcion agrees that tourists in the Marianas particularly from China are attracted to self-driving activities.

"Especially when it involves exotic vehicles like convertibles because it is very rare for them to be able to drive with a top down with fantastic scenery and pristine air," he said.

"If this type of activity is offered in the CNMI and not by our competitors then naturally it's an added reason why they choose to visit us," he added.

### Black eye

In recent months though, car rental accidents have been prevalent due to negligence and unfamiliarity of roads especially in the Marpi area.

Concepcion said that MVA does its part in educating visitors. "We provide driving safety tips on the visitors channel played at all major hotels, Mangaha, at the airport, and elsewhere. We also enforce this through our tour guide

certification program."

Concepcion added that all government agencies are working together to minimize accidents and traffic altercations that involve tourists. "Responsibility for road signage falls under the Department of Public Works and responsibility for traffic law enforcement falls with the Department of Safety."

For their part, Han said car rental companies provide customers traffic regulations briefing before they can take out the car.

"Part of our procedure is educating the customers about traffic rules and regulations on Saipan. When they rent a car, we brief them of the traffic rules and signs in the office but starting next month, we will be hands-on and enforce a 30-minute briefing on the road to educate our customers."

"Our greatest concern is the locals as we have been receiving negative reactions from the community about the tourists' driving. We want our locals to be happy, we want our tourists to have a memorable experience, and we are working hard to achieve that balance. We also commend the Department of Public Safety for investigating crimes and catching the criminals on crimes against tourists driving convertibles," he added.

Concepcion applauds the efforts of all major car rental companies in promoting

safety for all drivers. "I am glad that they are finally getting the message that they must educate their customers before they allow them on the road... we thank our partners in the car rental business for their support of the tourism industry as they provide much needed service for our visitors from around the world," he said.

"We seek their continued support in educating their customers on the rules on the road... we also ask the community for their patience as these tourists spend hard-earned money to visit the CNMI. They have chosen to come to the CNMI... without them we would not have an economy to speak of—no funding for schools, infrastructure, health, public safety, and everything else that receives funding from the economic activity generated by the tourism industry," he added.

Han said that he is aware of the declining worldwide market for the Chinese tourists because of the lifting of Chinese parole in many places.

"Many of the paroles for the Chinese have been lifted like in Palau. We are giving our best to make the tourism industry alive on Saipan even with limited source. We ask for the community's patience and understanding with our driving tourists as we vow to keep doing our job to make the CNMI residents and tourists happy," he added.

lines so that we can discuss the various issues," he told *Saipan Tribune* in a phone call.

Manglona, like Santos, stated that he has also received information from his constituents regarding the increase in airfare rates servicing Rota to Guam and Saipan.

Rota is solely relying on Star Marianas to provide their air transportation needs since Cape Air Express, under United Airlines, pulled out when the latter severed ties with the former in Micronesia.

## STAR

From Page 1

*Saipan Tribune* attempted to contact the airlines at its listed phone number yesterday afternoon, but to no avail. In a statement to *Saipan Tribune*, Sen. Teresita A. Santos (R-Rota) said several of her constituents phoned her about the "abrupt and astronomical" increase in airfare rates.

"While the people of Rota

applaud Star Marianas' additional flights [serving Rota to Saipan and vice versa], the unanticipated increase raises serious concerns as it incurs financial burden on our traveling public," she said.

"As a result, we ask Star Marianas to reconsider the fare increase as it is not for our traveling public's best interests," she continued.

Santos noted that she is looking forward to discussing this issue with the air-lines soon.

## Customs' OPA recommendations yet to be implemented

By ERWIN ENCINARES  
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REPORTER

The Department of Finance's Division of Customs has yet to persuade the Office of the Public Auditor that they have resolved previous issues in audit findings.

In a July 2, 2018 letter addressed to Senate President Arnold I. Palacios (R-Saipan), House Speaker Rafael S. Demapan (R-Saipan), House minority leader Rep. Edmund S. Villagomez (Ind-Saipan), Department of Finance Secretary Larissa C. Larson, and Special Assistant to the Office of Management and Budget Virginia C. Villagomez, OPA noted Customs have yet to satisfy the previous audit recommendations.

Customs was found in a previous audit that it is struggling to hold the cargo of delinquent taxpayers. According to a previous OPA recommendation, Customs should adhere to its policy of holding future cargo until outstanding balances to the DOF are satisfied. If Customs were to release cargo without the full payment of outstanding taxes or without the approval of a payment plan, then OPA recommends that Customs should maintain adequate

documentation and approval by the director of Customs.

During OPA's review of existing laws, new formal procedures were given to Customs to ultimately resale the held items in order to collect past due amounts.

OPA recommended that the division seek legal opinions on the matter to "determine if a change in the law is required or if such can be incorporated through revised regulations."

According to an April 30, 2018 communication to OPA, the division informed them that cargo arriving for taxpayers with installment payment plans must be paid prior to release of cargo, therefore resolving the previous issue. Customs further informed OPA that only the Customs director or his designee shall authorize the release of cargoes for businesses with delinquent outstanding for reasons such as off-island checks, pending status on accounts and disputes.

OPA, however, in their May 10, 2018 response said that they reportedly reviewed the Declaration of Entries of several importers with existing outstanding balances and found that cargoes are still being released without adequate documentation of the director

of Customs' approval, therefore, OPA continues to consider the recommendation as unresolved.

OPA further noted in a previous audit on the Customs that the division is struggling to collect overdue balances.

OPA recommended that written procedures be developed immediately to pursue importers with outstanding receivable balances that are greater than 30 days past due.

"OPA also recommends that receivable greater than 90 days be forwarded to the Division of Revenue and taxation, Collection Branch in accordance with...Customs Service Regulations," OPA noted in their recommendations to the division.

On the same April 30, 2018 communication from Customs, the division informed OPA that a billing and collection unit within the compliance section of the division allows Customs to bill delinquent taxpayers.

However, the division noted that the standard operating procedure for the billing and collection, or SOP, have yet to be approved by the department, therefore OPA still considers the recommendation to be unresolved until the SOP's are approved.

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## Commonwealth Utilities Corporation Procurement & Supply



### INVITATION FOR BIDS CUC-IFB-18-024

#### REMOVAL AND RELOCATION OF ENGINE # 8 AND # 4 FRAME, BLOCK & ALTERNATOR PARTS AT POWER PLANT NO.1, LOWER BASE, SAIPAN

The Office of the Executive Director, Commonwealth Utilities Corporation (CUC) is soliciting competitive sealed bids from qualified and experienced firms for the removal and relocation of Engine 8 and Engine No. 4 frame, block & alternator parts at Power Plant No.1, Lower Base, Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands. In addition they will also be required to remove the coils from the stators and store them in a designated place. Both engines have been partially dismantled by the CUC plant personnel.

CUC requires the Project to be completed in **180 calendar days** from date of award of contract.

Prospective Bidders must pre-register with the CUC Procurement & Supply Division. The Bid Package may be obtained from the CUC Procurement and Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room No. 3, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, Saipan, between 7:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. and 12:30 p.m. to 4:00 p.m., Monday through Friday, except on government observed holidays, upon completion of registration.

As this is a re-bid, a Pre-Bid Conference is not considered necessary; CUC will allow Site Visit based on pre-scheduled arrangements with CUC through email. Prospective Bidders who had not participated in the previous bid (CUC-IFB-18-020) are encouraged to visit the site for familiarizing the site conditions.

**One (1) original and Five (5) hard copies** must be submitted in a sealed envelope marked **"CUC-IFB-18-024: Removal and relocation of engines 8 and 4 at Power Plant No. 1"**, to the CUC Procurement & Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room No. 3, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, P.O. Box 501220, Saipan, MP 96950, no later than **10:00 AM (ChST) on July 27, 2018**, at which time they will be publicly opened and read aloud. Late submissions and conditional bids will not be considered. Bid shall be submitted on the provided Bid Forms. Bidders are required to complete all Bid Forms. Bidders may supplement the form as appropriate. Bids will be required to be submitted under a condition of irrevocability for a period of 90 days after submission.

All bidders are advised that CUC assumes no responsibility in any act of omission on the part of the bidders due to lack of information or understanding of the bid requirements in the course of Contractor's preparation of a bid under the contract. Bidders are however expected to have experience and the required skill sets in similar work.

A **Bid Guarantee** of fifteen (15%) percent of the total bid price must accompany the bids. The security deposit may be in cash, certified check, cashier's check, or bid bond executed by a surety company holding a certificate of authority from the United States Secretary of Treasury as an acceptable surety. A **Payment Bond** of one hundred (100%) percent and a **Performance Bond** of one hundred (100%) percent of the total bid price will be required upon the execution of the contract by the successful bidders. The Payment and Performance bond must be executed by a surety company holding a certificate of authority from the United States Secretary of Treasury as an acceptable surety. Surety Company must be authorized to do business in the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

All insurers' questions, concerns and qualification shall be handled by the Department of Commerce Office of the Insurance Commissioner (OIC). The OIC is tasked with regulating and monitoring compliance to the CNMI's Insurance Code (Title 4, Division 7). Bidders are required to submit a clearance from the OIC certifying their insurer of choice is in compliance with the CNMI's Insurance Code.

Bidders are required to comply with all CNMI and applicable Federal Laws. This bid and the ensuing contract shall be executed pursuant to the CUC Procurement Regulations.

All questions or requests for clarification will be entertained only from pre-registered Prospective Bidders and must be submitted in writing no later than **10:00 AM (ChST) on July 16, 2018** to Manny B. Sablan, CUC Purchasing Administrator, via email – [manny.sablan@cucgov.org](mailto:manny.sablan@cucgov.org) with a copy to Venugopal Prabhakara, CUC Project Manager – via email [venugopal.prabhakara@cucgov.org](mailto:venugopal.prabhakara@cucgov.org) and Christie Sablan, CUC Purchasing Assistant – via email [christie.sablan@cucgov.org](mailto:christie.sablan@cucgov.org).

CUC reserves the right to reject any or all bids and waive any imperfection in the bid proposal in the best interest of the government. All bids shall become the property of CUC.

WILLIAM GILMORE  
Acting, Executive Director

MANNY B. SABLÁN, JR.  
Purchasing Administrator

## Torres announces \$507,383 for BTS Program

Gov. Ralph DLG Torres announced Monday that \$507,383 has been awarded to the CNMI Brown Treesnake Interdiction Program through the Department of Interior Office of Insular Affairs' Brown Treesnake Program.

"Invasive species significantly damage our local habitat and can have detrimental effects on our economy. Preventing the spread of BTS is a continual effort and I recognize and commend the efforts of our BTS team who have maintained and exceeded their program's performance measures. Again, we've been so fortunate to say that our Commonwealth is snake-free and that our bird population is thriving. DLNR's perseverance has helped preserve our current bird habitat and ecosystem. As we continue work in containing and eradicating invasive species such as the coconut rhino beetles on Rota, I maintain our commitment to providing the necessary resources to combat all invasive species as much as possible," Torres said.



Torres

Treesnake Interdiction team did amazing work over the past year and prevented the entry of BTS to the islands. I commend our team and K9 inspectors for their ongoing diligence to ensure that all vessels and cargo arriving at ports of entry on Saipan,

Tinian, or Rota are clear and snake-free. Our program performance standards for inspections are to maintain a 90 percent canine inspection rate of Guam-based cargo arrivals, and maintain approximately 450 snake traps at all CNMI ports of entry and I am very pleased that the team has exceeded this and no brown treesnakes have entered the CNMI," Secretary of Lands and Natural Resources Anthony T. Benavente said.

"The Office of the Governor and the Office of Grants Management & State Clearinghouse commend Brown Treesnake Program Coordinator Kevin Donmoyer and his BTS team for their untiring efforts and continued success in the deterrence of the BTS into the CNMI. This year, the program saw an increase in annual grant

### BIRTHDAY SHOUTOUT



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Happy 4th birthday to Jesus Seman Cabrera II. May your day be filled with love and joy and many, many more birthdays to come. We love you. Always, Dad, Mom, Kaykay, Ezzy and MJ.



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**Disclaimer:** Must be able to legally work in the CNMI (Saipan) without needing a work visa.  
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**Commonwealth  
Utilities Corporation**  
Office of the Executive Director



## REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS CUC-RFP-18-026

### PROFESSIONAL SERVICES TO PROVIDE A BASIC LINEMAN TRAINING PROGRAM

The Office of the Executive Director, Commonwealth Utilities Corporation (CUC) is soliciting competitive sealed proposals from qualified firms to provide a basic lineman training program for CUC, Power Transmission & Distribution Division.

The RFP package may be obtained from the CUC Procurement and Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room No. 3, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, Saipan, between 7:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. and 12:30 p.m. to 4:00 p.m., Monday through Friday, except on government observed holidays upon completion of registration and presentation of a receipt evidencing a non-refundable payment to the CUC Treasury Section, by cash, check or credit card in the amount of \$100.00 for one RFP package set.

**One (1) original and five (5) hard copies**, along with an electronic copy of the proposal on a compact disk in PDF format must be submitted in a sealed envelope marked **"CUC-RFP-18-026, Basic Lineman Training Program"** to the CUC Procurement & Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room No. 3, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, P.O. Box 501220, Saipan, MP 96950, no later than **August 14, 2018 at 10:00 AM (ChST)**. Submissions, in PDF, must also be emailed to the addresses as noted in the RFP. Late submissions and conditional proposals will not be considered.

Discussions may be conducted with responsible offerors who submit proposals determined to be reasonably susceptible of being selected for award for the purpose of clarification and to ensure full understanding of and responsiveness to solicitation requirements. Offerors shall be accorded fair and equal treatment with respect to any opportunity to discuss and revision of proposals, and such revision may be permitted after submission and prior to award for the purpose of obtaining the best and final offers. During discussions, there will be no disclosure of any information derived from proposals submitted by competing offerors.

All Offeror are advised that CUC assumes no responsibility in any act of omission on the part of the Offeror due to lack of information or understanding of the proposal requirements in the course of Contractor's preparation of a proposal or supply under the contract. The RFP does not commit CUC to award a contract, to pay any cost incurred in the preparation of the proposal under this request, or to procure or contract for services. Offeror are required to comply with all CNMI and applicable Federal Laws. This bid and the ensuing contract shall be executed as per the CUC Procurement Regulations.

Questions or requests for clarification will be entertained only from pre-registered prospective proposers and must be submitted in writing no later than **10:00 AM (ChST) on July 31, 2018** to Manny B. Sablan, Jr., CUC Purchasing Administrator, via email address [manny.sablan@cucgov.org](mailto:manny.sablan@cucgov.org) with a copy to Lee Lieto, Power T&D Manager, via email address [lee.lieto@cucgov.org](mailto:lee.lieto@cucgov.org), Roger Madriaga, Human Resource Training Coordinator, via email address [roger.madriaga@cucgov.org](mailto:roger.madriaga@cucgov.org) and Marcela Tenorio, CUC Purchasing Assistant via email address [marcela.tenorio@cucgov.org](mailto:marcela.tenorio@cucgov.org).

CUC reserves the right to reject any or all proposals for any reason and to waive any defects in said proposal, if in its sole opinion, to do so would be in the best interest of CUC. All proposals shall become the property of CUC.

**GARY P. CAMACHO**  
Executive Director

**MANUEL B. SABLÁN, JR.**  
Purchasing Administrator

## 9th Circuit vacates dismissal of ex-Telesource staff's \$2M disability suit

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE  
ferdie.delatorre@saipantribune.com  
REPORTER

The U.S. Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit has vacated the U.S. District Court for the NMI's order that dismissed a \$2-million employment discrimination lawsuit filed by a former employee of the then-Telesource CNMI Inc. against his former employers over his alleged termination due to his disability from a vehicular accident.

Ninth Circuit Judges William C. Canby Jr., William A. Fletcher, and Consuelo

M. Callahan pointed out that it is not clear from the District Court's order whether the District Court considered the effect of plaintiff Garabed O. Mirzoian's filing of the complaint with the CNMI Department of Labor on the issue of exhaustion of administrative orders.

The Ninth Circuit judges remanded Mirzoian's case for the District Court to consider whether the plaintiff could be deemed to have constructively filed his claims with the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission on the

day he filed his charge with CNMI Labor, and therefore exhausted his administrative remedies at that time.

In a pro se complaint or without a lawyer, Mirzoian sued former Telesource chief executive officer Nidal Z. Zayed and general manager Michael N. El-Rahl with wrongful termination, employment discrimination, disability discrimination, for pain and suffering, and emotional distress.

According to Mirzoian, Telesource changed its name to Pernix Group Inc. and that El-Rahl and Zayed are now based in the company's offices in Fiji Islands and Illinois, respectively.

The plaintiff said Telesource terminated him in 2006 after finding he was injured as a result of a vehicular accident involving two buses.

He said he suffered serious injuries during the accident that took place during the scope of his employment

with Telesource.

Mirzoian said before he was medically referred to Guam, Telesource tried to negotiate with a lower pay for him because he had received a letter from a doctor

stating he could work "light duty only."

Mirzoian said he refused the offer because he was hoping that his nerve problem could be fixed.

He said El-Rahl advised him that if he does not take or sign the agreement he will be fired.

He said he was subsequently medically referred to the Philippines for surgery.

The plaintiff said he was then terminated without cause on the day the lower pay was offered.

He added that he is a shareholder of Telesource.

On Feb. 16, 2016, the District Court dismissed the case due to Mirzoian's fail-



ure to establish that he was entitled to equitable tolling of the 180-day period to file a charge with the EEOC or a

300-day period if he first files a charge with an authorized state agency.

In this case, the actions complained of occurred in 2006, and Mirzoian did not file charges with EEOC until 2015.

Because plaintiff did not explain why he filed over nine years after the actions at issue, the District Court dismissed the complaint without prejudice. The District Court allowed Mirzoian to refile the case to address this deficiency.

Mirzoian filed a first amended complaint six days after the court's order of dismissal.

On Jan. 19, 2018, U.S. District Court for the NMI Chief Judge Ramona V. Manglona dismissed Mirzoian's lawsuit

for lack of subject matter jurisdiction, concluding that the plaintiff failed to exhaust administrative remedies.

Manglona determined that the amended complaint fails to comply with the court's prior order.

Manglona directed the clerk of court to close the case.

Mirzoian appeals pro se from the District Court's order dismissing for lack of subject matter jurisdiction his employment action alleging wrongful termination in violation of Title VII, the Americans with Disabilities Act, the Genetic Information Nondiscrimination Act, and the Age Discrimination Act.

In vacating the District Court's order, the Ninth Circuit judges said although Mirzoian did not file a discrimination charge with the EEOC until 2015, he filed a discrimination complaint with CNMI Labor within 18 days of his termination in 2006.

## Senate confirms Dela Cruz to CNMI Scholarship Board

By ERWIN ENCINARES  
erwin\_encinaires@saipantribune.com  
REPORTER

The Senate last Friday confirmed Gov. Ralph DLG Torres' nominee to the CNMI Scholarship Board to serve her second term.

The Senate during their Friday session at the Senate chamber on Capitol Hill confirmed Torres' nomination of Geraly Dela Cruz to the CNMI Scholarship Board for her second term.

Dela Cruz told *Saipan Tribune* that among others, she wishes to continue enhancing current policies as well as create new policies for the betterment of NMI students seeking a higher education.

"Our board has always worked together to ensure that all policies relative to providing financial assistance for higher education are in the best interest of our students. I plan to continue to perform in that manner," Dela Cruz told *Saipan Tribune*.

With her confirmation, Dela Cruz expresses her gratitude toward the Senate for her confirmation and the governor for her appointment.

"The scholarship program is vital to our community as this is the government's investment for the future of the CNMI. Ultimately, we would like to see our residents return home with the education they have gained and the invaluable work experience they have attained, to work here in our beautiful Commonwealth," she said.

"Together, we can...improve our CNMI," she continued.

The Senate during the same session confirmed three other Torres nominations, namely Barrie Toves for the Commonwealth Ports Authority board of directors representing Rota and Roy

Reyes and Elizabeth Balajadia for the NMI Professional Licensing Board representing Saipan.

Only Toves was absent from the session since he reportedly had to catch a flight going back to Rota.

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**COMMUNITY BRIEFS**
**VA direct loan program outreach on July 24**

The Northern Marianas Housing Corp., in collaboration with the United States Department of Veterans Affairs, will be conducting outreach services regarding VA Native American Direct Loan Program for all the CNMI veterans. A representative from the Department of Veterans Office will be present to answer any questions regarding the program. The outreach will be held on July 24, 2018, at the NMHC Conference Room in Garapan, Saipan from 9am to 11:30am. For more information you may contact the NMHC Mortgage and Credit Division staff at (670)234-6866/9447/7670 or you may email Ms. Cherie Castanares, VA Representative, at cherie.castanares@va.gov or contact her at (808)433-0483. (PR)

**MLSC seeks donations for school supplies project**

Micronesian Legal Services Corp. is accepting cash or in-kind donations as part of its annual project to provide school supplies to needy children in the CNMI.

New school supplies or cash donations may be dropped off at MLSC's Marianas Office in the VS Sablan Building, Chalan Piao (same building as the Subway sandwich shop).

Checks may be dropped off or mailed to us at PO Box 500826, Saipan, MP 96950 or you may call MLSC at 234-7729 and they will pick-up donations.

MLSC hopes to deliver at least 100 new backpacks with supplies to children in low-income households. MLSC identifies needy children from its work and from referrals made by Karidat Social Ser-

vices and others.

MLSC is a 501(c)(3) organization, so your generous donations are tax-deductible. (PR)

**Lower Base Transfer Station, Marpi Landfill closed on Saturday**

In observance of the 2018 Liberation Day parade, the Lower Base Transfer Station and the Marpi Landfill will be closed at 1:30pm on Saturday, July 21, 2018. However, both facilities will open through lunch (11:30am-12:30pm). Normal operations will resume on Monday, July 23, 2018. (PR)

**MHS SY 2019 student orientations schedule**

Marianas High School will be conducting their school year 2018-2019 Student Orientations. Schedules are as follow:

■ Incoming freshmen and new transfer students (all grade levels): Aug. 8, 2018,

9am-12pm – School Gym

■ Ongoing Sophomores, Juniors & Seniors: August 9, 2018 9am-11am -School Gym

Registration is ongoing. Students will need to furnish a copy of their birth certificate, an updated health certificate, an updated student insurance, a copy of their 8th grade diploma (incoming freshmen), an official transcript (if transferring from another high school) along with a completed registration form. Last day to register will be on July 26, 2018. (PR)

**NMHC voucher program list to open July 23**

Pursuant to Section 5.1[1] of the Northern Marianas Housing Corp.'s Section 8 Administrative Plan, this is to inform the general public that NMHC is opening its Section 8 Housing Choice Voucher Program's (HCV) waiting list starting July 23, 2018. The waitlist will remain open until it reaches its maximum number of applicants. Interested families may pick up an application at the NMHC Main Office on Saipan or the Field Offices on Tinian and Rota, or visit our website at [www.nmhgov.net](http://www.nmhgov.net) to download an application. Please submit your application in person at the NMHC Main Office on Saipan or the Field Offices on Tinian and Rota, from Monday through Friday

(except holidays) between 8am and 4pm. NMHC is not accepting on-line submission of applications as of this time.

■ NMHC Main Office

Monday-Friday 8am-4pm

■ Tinian Field Office

Monday-Friday 8am-4pm

■ Rota Field Office

Monday-Friday 8am-4pm

NMHC Housing specialists will review the applications and formally contact applicants to schedule an eligibility appointment. For more information, please contact NMHC at telephone numbers 234-6866 or 234-9446 (Saipan), 433-9213 (Tinian), or 532-9410 (Rota). (PR)

**Release of PH passports announced**

The Philippine Consulate General in Guam, in coordination with the Office of Honorary Consul Eli Arago, has announced the release of Philippine passports to those who renewed their passports on May 21, 22, and 23, 2018. You can pick up your passports at Finasisu Terraces Apartment Bldg D, 2nd Floor, top of the Mini-Mart Store, Monday-Friday, 9am-5pm (12pm-1pm break time).

Bring old passport and receipt. For any inquiries or details, call Mel Santos at 233-6293. (PR)

**Saipan Agricultural**
**Fair on Aug. 4**

Saipan Agricultural Fair Association is pleased to inform the community that the 35th Saipan Agricultural Fair will take place on Aug. 4, 2018, 9am-2pm at the Civic Center, Susupe.

Rulebook and pre-registration forms (fees apply) for the adult plant and animal competitions are available at the Department of Lands Natural Resources offices in Kagman and Lower Base, Office of Animal Health Services, the Garapan Public Market, and Northern Marianas College-Cooperative Research and Extension Education Services, Building F. Rule Book and Pre-registration forms for the Youth Division are available at the NMC-CREES Main Office, Building F.

Deadline to submit the pre-registration forms is July 20, 2018. Proclamation signing for this event is on July 30, 2018 at 10am at the Governor's Office Conference Room, Capital Hill. Farmers, ranchers, and the general public are encouraged to attend.

Please see below for contact information:

■ Plant Division: Joshua Santos, 256-3319

■ Animal Division: Juan Taman, 234-6169

■ Youth Division: Lorenza Aldan, 237-6876

■ Vendors Division: Tina DLG Camacho, 256-3319. (PR)


**Commonwealth Utilities Corporation  
Office of the Executive Director**

**REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS  
CUC-RFP-18-019**
**Supply and Services for Installation & Commissioning of  
2 X 8-13 MW of Diesel Generating Plant System**

The Office of the Executive Director for the Commonwealth Utilities Corporation (CUC) is soliciting competitive sealed proposals from qualified and experienced entities to supply, install, integrate and commission (including without limitation all design, engineering, supervision, installation, testing, commissioning, training and handover) of (2) two complete new engine systems. Proposers must note that replacement of Engine No. 8 is the base proposal while the replacement of Engine No. 4 is an additive proposal. Each replacement Diesel Generating Plant shall be within a capacity range of 8 - 13 MW which must be supplied, installed, tested, and commissioned as an integrated system at CUC Power Plant No. 1, Lower Base, Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

The solicitation seeks proposals from a legally recognized business entity authorized to do business in the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, which has as one or more of its equity owners (principals) a qualified ORIGINAL EQUIPMENT MANUFACTURER (OEM), from which CUC intends to contract with to purchase one, and perhaps two, fully installed and commissioned turn-key engine systems that best fit CUC's power supply requirements. The Proposer must be authorized as OEM's agent to bind OEM to contractual terms including issuance of OEM's equipment warranty and certifying the installation of the works anticipated under this RFP meet OEM specifications, the Proposal, and meet or exceed all warranty requirements.

The RFP Package may be obtained from the CUC Procurement and Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room No. 3, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, Saipan, between 7:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. and 12:30 p.m. to 4:00 p.m., Monday through Friday, except on government observed holidays, upon completion of registration and presentation of a receipt evidencing a non-refundable payment to the CUC Treasury Section, by cash, check or credit card in the amount of \$500.00 (non-refundable) for one RFP package set. The RFP package consisting of the specifications and plans for the project, will be provided in a CD or emailed to the registered email ID. Prospective Proposers must pre-register with the CUC Procurement & Supply Division.

A Pre-proposal Conference will be conducted at the CUC Main Conference Room, 3rd Floor, Room 17, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, Dandan, Saipan on **July 18, 2018 at 10:00 AM (ChST)**. Immediately after the conference, a Site Visit to the Power Plant facility will be conducted. Proposers shall familiarize themselves with the site conditions prior to submitting the proposal.

**One (1) original and five (5) hard copies**, along with an electronic copy of the proposal on a compact disk in PDF format must be submitted in a sealed envelope marked **"CUC-RFP-18-019 - Supply and Services for Installation & Commissioning of 2 X 8-13 MW of Diesel Generating Plant System"** to the CUC Procurement & Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room No. 3, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, P.O. Box 501220, Saipan, MP 96950, **no later than August 23, 2018 at 10:00 AM (ChST)**. Late submissions and conditional proposals will not be considered.

A **Proposal Guarantee** equal to fifteen (15%) percent of the total proposed price must accompany the proposals. The security deposit may be in cash, certified check, cashier's check, or proposal bond executed by a surety holding a certificate of authority from the United States Secretary of Treasury as an acceptable surety. A **Payment Bond** of one hundred (100%) percent and a **Performance Bond** of one hundred (100%) percent of the total bid price will be required upon the execution of the contract by the successful Proposer. The Payment and Performance bond must be executed by a surety company holding a certificate of authority from the United States Secretary of Treasury as an acceptable surety. Surety Company must be authorized to do business in the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, for the protection of all persons supplying labor and material to the contractor or its subcontractors for the performance of the work provided for in the contract.

All insurers' questions, concerns and qualification shall be handled by the Department of Commerce Office of the Insurance Commissioner (OIC). The OIC is tasked with regulating and monitoring compliance to the CNMI's Insurance Code (Title 4, Division 7). **Proposers are required to submit a clearance from the OIC certifying their insurer of choice is in compliance with the CNMI's Insurance Code.**

Discussions may be conducted with responsible Proposers who submit proposals determined to be reasonably susceptible of being selected for award for the purpose of clarification and to ensure full understanding of and responsiveness to solicitation requirements. Proposers shall be accorded fair and equal treatment with respect to any opportunity to discuss and revision of proposals, and such revision may be permitted after submission and prior to award for the purpose of obtaining the best and final offers. During discussions, there will be no disclosure of any information derived from proposals submitted by competing Proposers.

All Proposers are advised that CUC assumes no responsibility for any act of omission on the part of the Proposer due in whole or in part to lack of information or understanding of the proposal requirements in the course of Contractor's preparation of a proposal or supply under any anticipated contract. The RFP does not commit CUC to award a contract, to pay any costs incurred in the preparation of the proposal under this request, or to procure or contract for services. Proposers are required to comply with all CNMI and applicable

Federal Laws. This bid and the ensuing contract shall be executed as per the CUC Procurement Regulations.

All responses to this RFP should take into account any and all taxes, including without limitation any and all excise tax, which will become the obligation of the proponent awarded a contract. Successful proponents will be required to submit a copy of a valid CNMI Business license upon award of the contract. The Contractor and all subcontractors will be obligated to pay wage rates not less than the current CNMI minimum wage, prevailing through the period of contract, as indicated in the web page:

[https://marianaslabor.net/](http://marianaslabor.net/). The proponents shall be required to comply with all applicable CNMI and Federal Laws.

This RFP solicits services regulated by the Commonwealth's Board of Professional Licensing (BPL). All bidders shall possess Certificate of Authority from the BPL as contemplated in and required by NMIA ss 125-20.1-501 which provides in part that any corporation or partnership "Firm," whether organized under the Law of the CNMI or other jurisdiction, hereafter offering to engage or engaging in the practice of engineering, architecture, land surveying, or landscape architecture in the Commonwealth must have a valid Certificate of Authorization (COA) issued by the Board. All firms must have a valid Certificate of Authorization before advertising to offer or offer professional engineering, architectural, land surveying, or landscape architectural services in the CNMI. All bids submitted shall be accompanied by a certificate of authority in the name of the OEM submitting the bid.

Questions or requests for clarification will be entertained only from pre-registered prospective proposers and must be submitted in writing no later than **10:00 AM (ChST) on July 23, 2018** to Manny B. Sablan, Jr., CUC Purchasing Administrator via email address [manny.sablan@cucgov.org](mailto:manny.sablan@cucgov.org) with a copy to Christopher Timmons, Assistant Attorney General, via email address [christopher\\_timmons@cnmioag.org](mailto:christopher_timmons@cnmioag.org) and Christie Sablan, CUC Purchasing Assistant via email address [christie.sablan@cucgov.org](mailto:christie.sablan@cucgov.org).

CUC reserves the right to reject any or all proposals for any reason and to waive any defects in said proposal, if in its sole opinion, to do so would be in the best interest of CUC. All proposals shall become the property of CUC.

WILLIAM GILMORE  
Acting, Executive Director

MANNY B. SABLAR, JR.  
Purchasing Administrator


**NORTHERN MARIANAS HOUSING CORPORATION**

P.O. BOX 500514, Saipan, MP 96950-0514


**NOTICE TO THE PUBLIC**

*This ad is paid for by NMHC funds.*

Notice is hereby given that the Northern Marianas Housing Corporation (NMHC) is the agency authorized to allocate Low Income Housing Tax Credits (Credits) in the CNMI. The United States 1986 Tax Reform Act created the federal low-income housing tax credit program under Section 42 of the Internal Revenue Code (Code) to assist with the development of low-income rental housing by providing qualified owners with credit to offset their federal tax obligations. The Credits are available to owners/developers of qualifying buildings and projects that meet certain low-income occupancy and rent restrictions.

Section 42 of the Code provides that the CNMI prepare a Qualified Allocation Plan (QAP) to determine housing priorities and to give preference to projects serving the lowest income tenants and projects obligated to serve qualified tenants for the longest periods. The QAP must incorporate selection criteria, which includes project location, housing need characteristics, sponsor characteristics, tenant populations with special needs, and public housing waiting lists.

NMHC has developed a QAP and is available at NMHC's office and website. The QAP describes the basis that NMHC will use to allocate Credits. NMHC may allocate **\$1,031,250.00** in Credits for the 2018 program year.

**Application for Credits**

Owners/Developers wishing to apply for the Credits should obtain and complete a LIHTC Application. The LIHTC Application may be obtained from NMHC's Office in Garapan, Saipan, MP 96950 or through our website at [www.nmhgov.net](http://www.nmhgov.net).

Owners/Developers must file the completed LIHTC Application along with the **\$2,500.00 Application Fee** at NMHC's office by the Application Deadline of **4:30 pm, August 10, 2018**. NMHC staff will review the application and will notify the Owner/Developer of any deficiencies by 15 days time or **August 27, 2018**. The owner/developer will be given 14 days to correct any deficiencies. Any corrections or supplemental information requested by NMHC must be received by **4:30 pm September 10, 2018**. The projects will be scored and recommendations made to the NMHC Board of Directors for approval at its **October/November 2018** Board Meeting.

**Notification of Awards**

NMHC will notify Owners/Developers of the projects receiving Credits thirty (30) days following the October/November 2018 Board of Directors Meeting. The reservation letter must be signed and returned to NMHC by no later than thirty (30) days from the date of notification.

For more information on this program, please contact NMHC at 234-6866/7670/7689/9447.

/s/ **JESSE S. PALACIOS**  
Corporate Director

NMHC will make necessary arrangements for persons with disabilities or persons requiring interpreters upon prior notification. Should you require such arrangements, please contact Ms. Jocelyn Seman at telephone numbers 234-6866/7670/7689/9447.

## Lava crashes through roof of Hawaii tour boat, injuring 23

HONOLULU (AP)—An explosion caused by lava oozing into the ocean sent molten rock crashing through the roof of a sightseeing boat off Hawaii's Big Island, injuring 23 people Monday, officials said.

They were aboard a tour boat that takes visitors to see lava plunging into the ocean from the long-erupting Kilauea volcano that has been vigorously shooting lava from a new vent in the ground for the past two months.

The U.S. Geological Survey says explosions of varying sizes happen whenever 2,000-degree (1,093-degree Celsius) lava enters much colder seawater. Some of those explosions can be so tiny they are hard to see. But when the conditions are just right, much larger explosions send molten rock and other debris high into the air, according to USGS geologist Janet Babb.

The lava punctured the boat's roof, leaving a gaping hole, firefighters said.

A woman in her 20s was in serious condition with a broken thigh bone, the Hawaii County Fire Department said. She was transported to Honolulu for further treatment, said Hilo Medical Center spokeswoman Elena Cabatu.

Twenty-two others suffered burns and scrapes, including 12 that were treated at the Hilo hospital and released.

Shane Turpin, the owner and captain of the vessel that was hit, said he never saw the explosion that rained molten rock down on top of his boat.

He and his tour group had been in the area for about 20 minutes making passes of the ocean entry about 500 yards offshore, Turpin said.

He didn't observe "any major explosions," so he navigated his vessel closer, to about

250 yards away from the lava.

"As we were exiting the zone, all of a sudden everything around us exploded," he said. "It was everywhere."

Turpin said he had no idea just how big the blast was until he saw video of the event later on shore.

"It was immense," he said. "I had no idea. We didn't see it."

Monday's large blast may also be related to the undersea landscape and the amount of lava being produced by a fissure miles from the coast.

Babb said sometimes molten rock can become encrusted underwater, and when that crust breaks large amounts of lava hit the water and create huge steam explosions.

"How high and how far really depends on the vigor of the steam explosion, and that depends on the amount of lava going into the ocean," Babb

said. "Based on a lot of years of observations of ocean entries," USGS estimates these explosions can send debris up

to 300 meters in any direction.

In a flow that reached the ocean in 2016, the lava "hit a steep slope and was very

quickly carried down to deeper parts of the ocean," Babb said. But the offshore topography of the new ocean entry is shallow, meaning explosions could occur much closer to the surface.

## USDA announces signup for the 2018 Reimbursement Transportation Program

### » Program helps offset cost for farmers, ranchers outside contiguous US

Administrative FSA county office or the FSA website at [www.fsa.usda.gov/pricesup](http://www.fsa.usda.gov/pricesup)

port. To find your local FSA county office, visit <http://offices.usda.gov>. (PR)



HONOLULU, Hawaii—The U.S. Department of Agriculture Hawaii State and Pacific Basin Farm Service Agency executive director AL Frenzel announced to farmers and ranchers residing outside the contiguous continental United States that the Reimbursement Transportation Cost Payment Program for fiscal year 2018 will begin on July 16, 2018, and end on Sept. 7, 2018.

The 2014 Farm Bill reauthorized RTCP, which offsets a portion of the costs of transporting agricultural products over long distances. The program allows farmers and ranchers in Alaska, Hawaii and insular areas including the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, Guam, American Samoa, Commonwealth of Northern Mariana Islands, Virgin Islands of the United States, Federated States of Micronesia, Republic of the Marshall Islands and Republic of Palau, to recover any transportation costs.

"This program helps U.S. farmers and ranchers outside the 48 contiguous states who are at a competitive disadvantage when transporting agriculture products to market," said Frenzel.

RTCP payments are calculated based on the costs incurred for transportation of the agricultural commodity or inputs during a fiscal year, subject to an \$8,000 per producer cap per fiscal year. In the event that claims for payments exceed the funds available from the program for a fiscal year, payments will be reduced on a pro-rata basis.

For more information on RTCP, farmers and ranchers in the eligible areas can visit their



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# Opinion

## Saipan Tribune

THE CNMI'S FIRST DAILY NEWSPAPER

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## EDITORIAL

### It's depressingly clear that Trump is unwilling to get tough on Russia

In an appalling spectacle that dismayed even some of his own supporters, President Donald Trump stood next to Vladimir Putin in Helsinki on Monday and called into question the conclusion of the U.S. intelligence community and his own senior advisers that Russia interfered in the 2016 U.S. presidential election.

It's obvious that no amount of evidence will budge the president from his reluctance to acknowledge the past and present threat posed by Russia to American democracy. Even a year and a half into his presidency, he seems to regard any admission that Russia intervened as undermining the legitimacy of his election victory.

In his opening statement at Monday's joint news conference, Trump said that during private talks "I addressed directly with President Putin the issue of Russian interference in our elections." But he proceeded to undermine even that token acknowledgement of reality when he answered a reporter's question about whether he believed the U.S. intelligence community's conclusion or Putin's denials.

"They said they think it's Russia; I have President Putin, he just said it's not Russia," Mr. Trump said. "I will say this: I don't see any reason why it would be." He added: "I have great confidence in my intelligence people, but I will tell you that President Putin was extremely strong and powerful in his denial today."

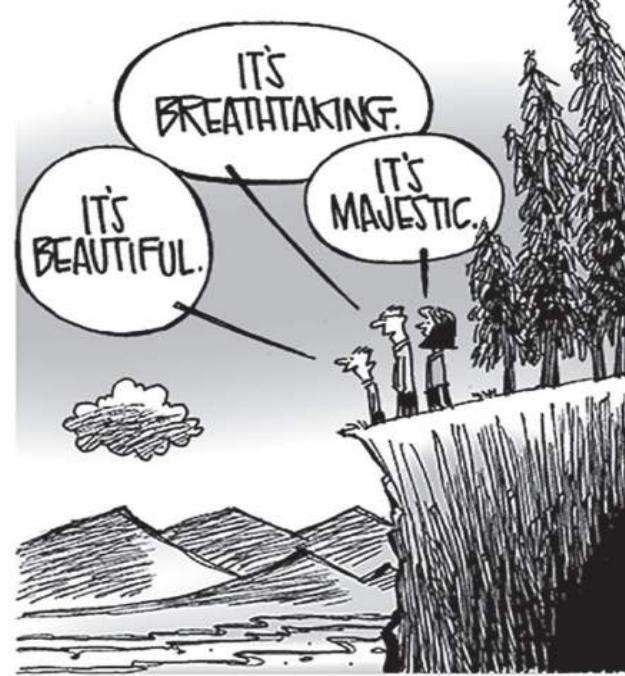
It is shocking that the president would give no greater weight to the longstanding, evidence-based conclusions of the CIA, NSA, FBI and the office of the director of national intelligence than he gives to the say-so of a manipulative Russian autocrat. But it is in line with his comment in reference to a previous Putin denial that "I really believe that when he tells me that, he means it."

Since then, the evidence of Russian interference has become stronger. Last week a federal grand jury returned detailed indictments charging 12 Russian intelligence officers by name with interfering in the election.

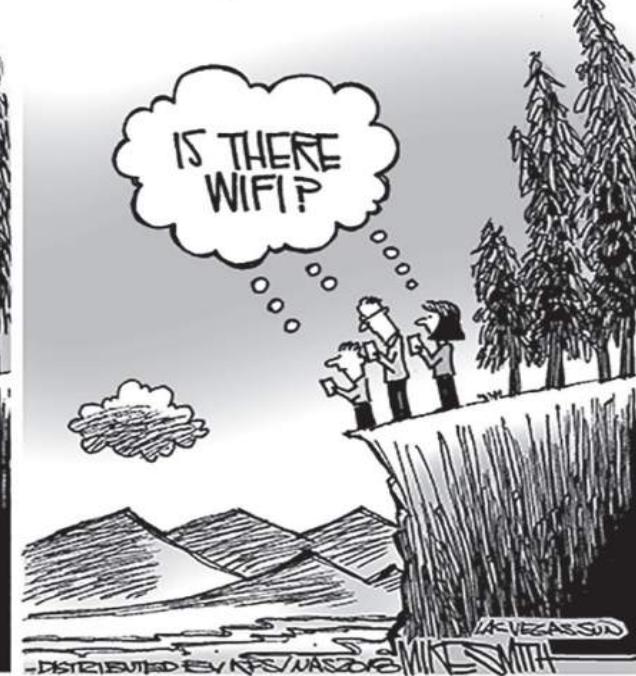
Yet instead of viewing the indictments as a reason for challenging Putin, Trump on Monday trashed the investigation by special counsel Robert S. Mueller III that led to the charges. "I think that the probe is a disaster for our country," Trump said, arguing that the investigation had harmed U.S.-Russia relations. "I think it's kept us apart; it's kept us separated," he said.

Of course dialogue between Russia and the United States — on Syria, nuclear disarmament, Iran, Crimea and others matters — is desirable, even essential. But the U.S. can carry on such communication without turning a blind eye to the extraordinarily serious issue of Russian interference in democratic elections here and elsewhere around the world. Fortunately, other members of the Trump administration see that clearly, as does Congress. But there is no substitute for presidential leadership on this issue. Trump made it depressingly clear on Monday that he is incapable of providing it.

## SUMMER VACATIONS PAST



## SUMMER VACATIONS PRESENT



## Katman Kabron

**I**nipus katma yan silensi i tanu'. Estotbu este pot ti otdinariu gi tautau-ta man-mamat kilu sin motibu. Haf mohon umestototba ha'anen niha?

Gaige este na chinatsaga gi monedan familia!

'Nai taya' salape' gi pottanmonedan familia siempre mamakilu i dos saina ya makonsidera haf uttimu siña. Makat na kontrariu i mantai kampu umalibia asuntun familia.

Kanaha` 15-mit na empleau man-mamatmus gi suetdun popble (poverty income and below). Mas man-maluñu` ha'anen niha` nai mahatsa suetdun niha i republican 80 pot sientu!

Makat na laimi i betsan niha finenina ke nesessidat mayotmente ni didog man-mamatmus gi fache' pineple. Nuebu na heñiu i mahasñgun ma-upus pinadesen mas man-chatsaga.

Dispues, i siñku pot sientu na pugi para empleau siha trabiha mediu masede nu este na administrasion. Haf dumiteten mana` komplidu este na subida?

De Dios: Luko` , estotbu i para ta huñgug na man-espipiha dueñun casino guine inbestasionistas (investors) giya Japon ume`efondu. Na chatsaga este na infotmasion sa` keha na ti fitme hinanau este na modun industria guine.

Mauleg na dañu para u fuegu gi megai na tautau tat kumu 3,024 na man-ritirau. Lastima i mañiñila` i kandet lau taya` tautau gi gima`!

**Belan 80:** Dañkulu na bela guaha gi hegsu` I Deni` pot hatsadan suetdun man-ma`gas 80 pot sientu. Man-a`ñañgun na muñga madiskute i 80 na numeru pot no umasiente gi señgoñ siha. Dibera! Finu` i kuentus hagas malagnus i katu gi kestat.

Kase siña tafana'an "katman kabron", era matuñgu` malabidu niha lau mafa` inosiente siha ni disision kontra megai na empleau guine.

Ti ilegata na muñga hatsada para manma-elihe. Lau haf na modun kuentas inna setbe na 80 pot sientu in` hatsa hamyu?

Guaha kase 15-mit na empleau gumagana mas tagpapa` na suetdu (poverty income and below) ya in` lañgag umupus nesessidat familial niha?

Na ti in` anunsa na guaha adelantu gi ekonomian i tanu`? Malag manu ennau na adelantu na taigue gi monedan familia siha? Hamyu` solu man-inaminasa ni kumahulu` presiun nesessidat siha?

Dispues, memegaiña gumagana suetdun popble (poverty) ya in` chenig ñaihon gi un` banda pot para in` na lamegai mas betsan miyu? Tailaye na disposision `nai i gai fuetsa politika la`la` , i tai nina` siña mas maluñu` gi sisonyan didog na sapet yan chinatsaga. Lastima i inañgog-hu!

**Tradision:** Kuttura i modun linala` tautau maseha manu na tanu` . Sumasaunau liñguah, relihion, neñkanu` , linala` komunida, disposision tanu` , kontodu trahe, dandan and baila.

Gi mismu tiempu, kuttura matulalaika gi inasoda` natibu yan otru rasan tautau ni man-mattu mage Marianas. Konrespetu man-asede hit inana` en kuttura kau hechuran neñkanu` yan otru siha akseptau na kustumbre.

**By JOHN S. DELROSARIO JR.**

Special to the Saipan Tribune



*John DelRosario Jr. is a former publisher of the Saipan Tribune and a former secretary of the Department of Public Lands. All views expressed by the author are his/her own and do not necessarily reflect the opinion and stance of the Saipan Tribune.*

Ha obligayu` un` kuestion: haf kutturan Chamorro?

Lamayot patte mau`udai kuttura-ta gi liñguahi-ta. Estague` solu sahyan ni umesgaihon manafitmen kuttura gi tod modun ekspressiu yan pinetsige.

Hana`e mas asegurau na pisu i kutturan relihion katolisimu guine ni mas masimientu gi linala` tautau-ta siha. Areglu mamta` gi mauleg na relasion `nai motmut respetu yan ina` ayuda entre unu yan otru.

Metgot trabiha sensian komunida gi natibu mina` man-a`rikonose hit bes enkuando. Ni unu madiñgu gi santatte.

I Chamorro makat mayeñguñ gi lugatñia pot desde 4,000 años antes de finattun segundu tropa hagas gaige guine siha na petlas.

Kuantu na nacion kume destrosia modun linala`ña lau ni unu felis. Maseha silensi lau mesñgun si guelu yan guela sumusteni kutturan yan tradision Chamorro.

Ha sustene linala`ña gi usun tanu` yan tasi. Tatnai man-estotba gi otru pot para una` gefsaga-gue` . Kontentu gi bendision nina`en i Saina.

I tradision natibu suficiente gi disposision ha`aniña segun i man-matugi` na estoria siha gi fina` pos tano`ta. Ta`lu, ni unu ta estotba para tafan adelantau gi hinanau-ta. Gaige gi sattun na disposision man-mofo`na.

Naturat na relasion ta establese entalu` tanu` yan tasi desde antigua na tiempu. Maseh menus usun tanu` para gualu` gaige ha` usuñia kumu lugat familia. Un` lugat ni todum numá`e dignu, onru yan ma`ug na memorias pot tutuhun pisun kada unu.

**Kanaiña:** Hu konfitma i finu` man-amku` pot "mauleg kanaiña". Guaha mana`e kanaiña mananum, umesuette gi halum tanu` , yan otru siha offisiu. Mana`eyu` chenot man-rayu gi patpet!

Huli`e unu mauleg mananum desde choda, kamute, mendio-ka, sune yan gulusina. Tat tinanomña ti manogdcha` gi halum sais-dies mesis na tiempu. Hu rikonose tinanomhu choda gi tattten kasiyas manog. Ni hagun sinisu taya` . Hu tomba ni kuha pot na`mamahlau.

I otru, achog kantun unai mañgoni` ayuyu. Hu chage tula noche ume-ayuyu gi tadtuñ halum tanu` . Ni unu` Nai guuya humanau kontodu man-yomug manug hatsadu ha kikilili` guatu gi lanchu para katdun mame. Dios mihi!

Finu` biuhu, ti un` mana` tailaye lau ti un mana`e. Desde ayu kontentuyu` kumusuneru! Ti todum manmaregalu naturat na nina` siñan ginen hilu` .

## EDITORIAL POLICY

Letters to the editor must include the NAME, VILLAGE ADDRESS, and CONTACT NUMBER of the contributor. Letters that do not have these information will immediately be trashed. Contributions consisting of 500 words or less have more chances of getting published. The *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to publish a contribution or not; the right to edit submissions for length, accuracy, and clarity; and the right to publish and distribute contributions in print, electronic, or other media formats. Submissions may be sent via snail mail to the 2nd Floor, JP Center, Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan, 96950; fax (670) 235-3740; e-mail to [editor@saipantribune.com](mailto:editor@saipantribune.com); or through our website at [www.saipantribune.com](http://www.saipantribune.com).

## Trump's Helsinki disgrace

By ELI LAKE  
BLOOMBERG NEWS

**N**early a year after Donald Trump crippled his presidency by saying there was "blame on both sides" after a scrum between white nationalists and anti-racist protesters in Virginia, he has created another Charlottesville moment. This time it was on the world stage.

Trump's 40-minute press conference on Monday with Russian President Vladimir Putin was an exercise in nauseating moral equivalency. In Trump's view, there are good nations on both sides.

Start with the most obvious example. When asked whether he would condemn Putin for interfering in the U.S. election, Trump launched into a bizarre rant about the Democratic National Committee's "missing server." The president of the United States should know better, particularly after Robert Mueller's latest indictment, which detailed how a dozen Russian military intelligence agents hacked the email accounts of leading Democrats.

Then Trump went further. After Putin said he would allow U.S. law enforcement officials to come to Moscow and watch as his police question the 12 agents Mueller indicted, Trump responded by calling it "an incredible offer."

It isn't. Putin was falsely equating his own country's information operation against the Democratic Party with the U.S.'s

refusal to recognize an arrest warrant for William Browder, the chief executive of Hermitage Capital. Browder has spent the last nine years of his life pursuing justice for Sergei Magnitsky, his Russian lawyer, who died in prison in 2009 after exposing embezzlement by government officials.

And who knows what Trump said in private to Putin; they met alone (with only translators present) for two hours before meeting the press. But Trump's failure to summon a micron of public outrage at Putin's false equivalency is telling.

This is, after all, the same president who called the European Union "a foe" and criticized Germany as "captive" to Russia because it gets so much energy from Russia. Putin, meanwhile, is merely a competitor — and that's a compliment, Trump was at pains to explain.

He may not realize it, but Trump is seeking the wolf's cooperation to protect the hen house. Both Putin and Trump said the U.S. and Russia could work together to protect Syrian refugees, millions of whom have fled to Turkey, Jordan, Lebanon and Europe. One reason there are so many Syrian refugees? Because Putin's air force has indiscriminately bombed Syrian civilians.

Putin also suggested that the two sides could work on cybersecurity, something Trump agreed to a year ago after their first chat. Again, this is seeking Russian cooperation on a problem Russia has created. As the director of national intelligence Dan

Coates said last week, the Russian threat to America's digital infrastructure is now at the same level — "blinking red" — as the warnings of a terror attack before Sept. 11.

Even on arms control, Trump is playing the sucker. Right now, Russia is in violation of the Intermediate Range Nuclear Forces Treaty, something Putin himself confirmed in March when he unveiled a new line of nuclear weapons (and an animation showing a Russian nuclear attack on the U.S.). Why would Trump seek new arms control agreements with Russia when it keeps violating the old ones?

None of this is proof, despite predictable hyperbole by some Democrats, that Trump is a Russian agent. And the president's defenders are correct to point out that Bill Clinton, George W. Bush and Barack Obama all sought, in their own way, rapprochement with Putin's Russia. So why shouldn't Trump be given the chance to succeed where his predecessors failed?

The answer is that Trump has, or should have, the benefit of their experience. All previous presidents have eventually come to the same conclusion: When we try to work with him, Putin burns us.

The only sliver of encouraging news from this meeting is that, despite the good vibes between the two leaders, they didn't announce any new agreements. Now Trump's advisers will have to work to keep it that way. Russia under Putin is the equivalent of geopolitical poison. It should be quarantined, not enticed into cooperation.

## Dear President Trump, I'm sorry you didn't make it to Annapolis

**A**NNAPOLIS, Md.—Dear President Trump, I am sorry you didn't make it to Annapolis. We just finished eulogizing our dead friends. Maybe you could have said a few nice words, too.

I know you don't read The Capital, but I want to point out a few recent letters — there will be more — that have debated whether you should bear some responsibility for the June 28 deadly assault on my newsroom.

Look, you and I both know you were not responsible for this.

The man police say did it is sitting in the Anne Arundel County Detention Center just down the road from my new office. We had to move because of the damage done by shotgun blasts to a physical space filled with reporters' notebooks and laptops, not to mention the less tangible scars on the hearts of those who survived.

I know how hurtful this accusation seems. You see, some readers blame me too.

I got a letter to the editor, that's me by the way, from a reader who said I'd have to carry the burden of this for the rest of my life. I agreed with the idea but was surprised by the reasoning. Apparently, I created a climate where my friends and colleagues didn't feel it was OK to bring their guns to work.

He sent me a nice drawing to illustrate his point, showing how the dead members of my staff — who reported on council meetings and local teenagers — might have survived if only they could have fired back. The rendering of one man shooting another as he fled for his life was a bit confusing though. I wasn't sure which role the reader suggested was mine.

Another reader wrote that it was my fault because I knew there was an angry person out there but failed to put security officers

at the door. I don't know about this. I'm troubled by the notion of candidates for the school board being questioned before being allowed to meet the community newspaper's editorial board.

Blaming people can be comforting. I had to stop myself from wondering if your rhetoric was the feather's weight of hate that tipped the gunman into a fit of homicidal rage. I was pretty hurt when you called journalists the enemy of the people, and pretty angry when you said 75 percent of journalists are dishonest even before our funerals were finished.

Don't worry, I doubt either side will mention you during the trial.

Pardon my rambling. I've struggled with difficulty sleeping lately, and bouts of weeping have made getting through the day harder than it used to be. Writing helps, but only so much.

I'm publishing this letter to you in the hopes that you'll answer a question for me.

I asked it at the memorial service we held for our friends. I called on the journalists in the room to ask every public official, every candidate for office and their own communities the same question. I called on them to ask you.

It didn't make the story about the service. Maybe no one heard what I was saying because I was choking on tears. Maybe no one was listening.

So here's my question: How do we make what happened in Annapolis the last mass shooting in America?

Please don't blame others for a failure to answer this question before now. It's hard. I know there is no answer, yet. Kind of a puzzle, huh?

I suppose what I really want is for you to search for a solution.

By RICK HUTZELL  
Capital Gazette

Rick Hutzell is the editor of Capital Gazette Communications. Contact him at [rhutzell@capgaznews.com](mailto:rhutzell@capgaznews.com)



I'm asking you to do your job and lead us.

You might go down as the greatest president in history if only you could answer this question. You'd be remembered as a good one if only you would try.

There are a lot of complex issues involved, and maybe some simple ones. My friends were caught between all of them.

Gun control laws — and Maryland has strong ones — weren't designed to stop a rampage with a legally obtained shotgun. Our legal system failed to spot a man who seemed dangerously obsessed to many of those who came into contact with him. Our nation seems unable to slow the momentum of its gathering rage.

I hope it's not too late. With every day that passes, the attention on Annapolis fades. It faded for Newtown, Aurora, Las Vegas, Orlando and even Columbine.

It's a sad truth that there will be another opportunity to start the discussion if you miss this one.

Please do your job. Please don't wait for the next time. Please lead.

We're all waiting for someone to try.

## Scotus tension heightened and enlightened

(Faith in the U.S. Supreme Court, acknowledging the inevitable)

**T**his quote written 385 years ago by John Donne caused my mind to POTUS flow. The parentheses and words inside them are mine.

"Will he (Mueller) not let us alone, and think that there a loving

couple (45 and Melania) lies, Who thought that this device (smart phone) might be some way to make their souls, at the last busy day (end of Trump's first term) meet at the grave, and make a little stay?" (continue a second term).

### INVESTIGATION FRUSTRATION! SUPREME COURT SITUATION

Of our President's fixer up lawyer and troubled staff many indicted, locked up, flipping info and facts his model wife's jacket subject to disgrace and laugh

before Pruitt left he had his staff do calendar redacts state of the art smart phones have become the device to expose inept immigrant border handling by ICE disregard joker Giuliani's every day defensive retort many surmised in advance 45's choice for Supreme Court 45's rule may well be fading yet he tweets full bore his embarrassing insults and policy will not be stopped alienation of allies, disastrous tariffs, we can't ignore with increased cyber band width he seldom flopped to diminish women's rights he wants new laws made continues appointing judges to change Roe v. Wade.

### US SUPREME COURT a WORRYWART SHORT REPORT

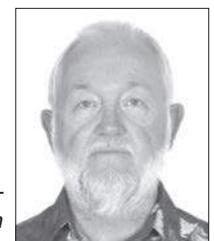
The U.S. Supreme Court has some on its bench near death the nine Court Justices try to hang on till their last breath to the woman to the man one must also always expect

**LITERARY NOOK**  
By JOEY 'PEPE BATBON' CONNOLLY

Special to the Saipan Tribune

Joe "Pepe Batbon" Connolly is a retired teacher and poet living on Tinian who taught English in CNMI public schools for the past 30 years.

He has also taught in Alaska, New Orleans, and Las Vegas.



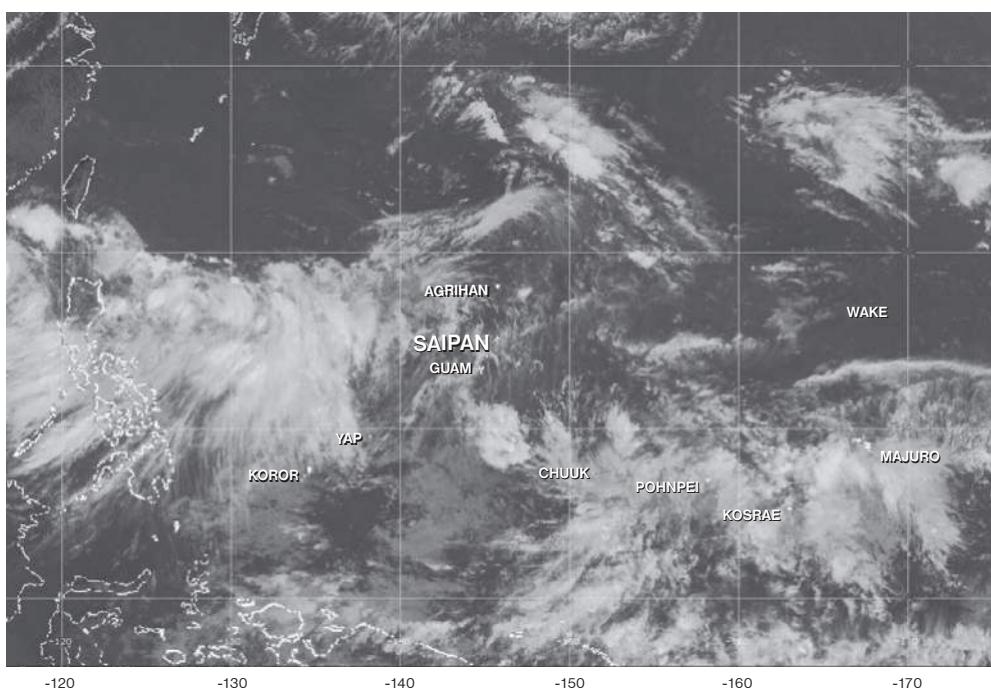
their decisions to be well written and legally direct the judicial branch of government will persevere so say I regardless of a conservative or liberal leaning anatomy despite decisions, love for and ringing of liberty's bell despite their siding with or belief in heaven or hell there during their busy calendar wise man and wise maid will concur, dissent, and/or approve what others said some will speak out while others will hold their tongue in a rational chorus with judicial Constitutional song some may holdback during their first years on the bench few will pay any heed to a Trump based monkey wrench.

# The Weather

## 5-DAY FORECAST FOR SAIPAN AND TINIAN

TODAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
Partly sunny with isolated showers and thunderstorms. East winds 10 to 15 mph. ▲ 86° ▼ 76°	Partly sunny with isolated showers and thunderstorms. Light and variable winds. ▲ 86° ▼ 76°	Mostly cloudy with isolated showers and thunderstorms. ▲ 87° ▼ 76°	Mostly cloudy with isolated showers and thunderstorms. ▲ 87° ▼ 77°	Mostly cloudy with isolated showers and thunderstorms. ▲ 87° ▼ 77°

## YESTERDAY'S SATELLITE IMAGE



**PICTURE TIME: 8:34 AM, TUESDAY, JULY 17, 2018**

Western North Pacific between equator and 25N from 130E to 180.

A cloudy sky with isolated showers prevailed across the Marianas early this morning. More concentrated showers were located south of Guam and in the Guam coastal waters. Combined seas were mainly between 3 and 5 feet at the buoys.

Satellite image and accompanying information are provided by the National Weather Service. For an updated weather forecast, visit the National Weather Service Guam homepage: [www.prh.noaa.gov/guam/](http://www.prh.noaa.gov/guam/)

MICRONESIA		▲	▼	°F
Guam and Rota	Thunderstorm	86°	/	79°
Palau	Thunderstorm	85°	/	78°
Yap	Thunderstorm	86°	/	79°
Chuuk	Thunderstorm	85°	/	79°
Pohnpei	Thunderstorm	86°	/	76°
Kosrae	Thunderstorm	86°	/	76°
Majuro	Thunderstorm	85°	/	81°

AROUND THE GLOBE			▲	▼	°F
Auckland	Showers	59°	/	48°	
Beijing	Partly Cloudy	93°	/	79°	
Hong Kong	Mostly Cloudy	90°	/	81°	
Honolulu	Partly Cloudy	88°	/	76°	
London	Partly Cloudy	79°	/	59°	
Los Angeles	Partly Cloudy	85°	/	71°	
Manila	Thunderstorm	84°	/	79°	
Melbourne	Rain	59°	/	43°	
Miami	Mostly Cloudy	88°	/	80°	
New York	Sunny	87°	/	67°	
Osaka	Sunny	97°	/	81°	
Paris	Partly Cloudy	82°	/	63°	
Busan	Sunny	88°	/	77°	
Rome	Sunny	90°	/	70°	
Salem	Partly Cloudy	89°	/	72°	
San Francisco	Sunny	66°	/	56°	
Seoul	Partly Cloudy	91°	/	73°	
Tokyo	Partly Cloudy	93°	/	81°	
Washington, DC	Partly Cloudy	88°	/	68°	



## NMI CRIME STOPPERS

Anonymous tips can now be submitted through the following:  
 ■ Call 234-7272 (PARA) on any telephone  
 ■ \*11 on any IT&E cellular phone  
 ■ Log on to the internet at [www.nmicrimestoppers.net](http://www.nmicrimestoppers.net)

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## FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF JUNE 6, 2018

DEPARTURES				ARRIVALS			
SAIPAN-GUAM (GUM)				GUAM (GUM)-SAIPAN			
UA117 8:45am 9:30am Daily				UA117 7:00am 7:45am Daily			
SAIPAN-BUSAN (PUS)				BUSAN (PUS)-SAIPAN			
7C3451 3:10am 6:10am 1, 7				7C3452 9:00pm 2:10am+1 4			
7C3451 4:00am 7:05am 4, 5				7C3452 9:05pm 2:10am+1 3, 6, 7			
SAIPAN-SEOUL (ICN)				SEOUL (ICN)-SAIPAN			
TW308 2:00am 6:05am Daily				7C3402 9:30am 3:00pm Daily			
OZ626 2:10am 6:00am 1				OZ625 7:40pm 1:00am+1 7			
OZ626 2:50am 6:40am 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7				TW307 7:45pm 1:00am+1 Daily			
LJ652 3:40am 7:30am 1, 4, 5, 7				OZ625 8:20pm 1:40am+1 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6			
7C3403 4:45am 8:30am Daily				LJ651 9:10pm 2:40am+1 3, 4, 6, 7			
7C3401 4:00pm 7:45pm Daily				7C3404 10:10pm 3:40am+1 Daily			
SAIPAN-SHANGHAI (PVG)				SHANGHAI (PVG)-SAIPAN			
3U8648 5:40am 8:40am 1, 4, 5, 7				3U8647 10:20pm 4:30am+1 3, 4, 6, 7			
SAIPAN-HANGZHOU (GHG)				HANGZHOU (GHG)-SAIPAN			
JD396 7:30am 12:00pm 1				JD395 8:25am 3:30pm 4			
JD396 4:50pm 10:00pm 4				JD395 9:55pm 5:00am+1 7			
SAIPAN-GUANGZHOU (CAN)				GUANGZHOU (CAN)-SAIPAN			
3U8646 4:20am 7:30am 2, 6				3U8645 7:40pm 3:00am+1 1, 5			
SAIPAN-BEIJING (PEK)				BEIJING (PEK)-SAIPAN			
MU764 1:30am 6:35am 3, 5, 7				MU763 4:25pm 12:30am+1 2, 4, 6			
SAIPAN-MANILA (MNL)				MANILA (MNL)-SAIPAN			
0Z626/701 2:10am 10:55am 1 via ICN				UA182/6395 12:40am 8:05am 3, 6 via GUM			
0Z626/701 2:50am 10:55am 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN				UA190/6397 9:55am 5:35pm 2, 3, 6, 7 via GUM			
UA6394/191 4:15am 9:00am 2, 3, 6, 7 via GUM				OZ702/625 12:25pm 1:00am+1 7 via ICN			
UA6394/PR111 4:15am 8:10am 7 via GUM				OZ702/625 12:25pm 1:40am+1 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via GUM			
UA6394/PR111 4:15am 9:20am 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via GUM				PR110/UA6395 10:05pm 8:05am+1 Daily via GUM			
UA6398/183 6:05pm 9:40pm 2, 5 via GUM				UA192/6395 10:30pm 8:05am+1 2, 5 via ROR-GUM			
UA6398/183 6:05pm 9:50pm 1, 3, 4, 6, 7 via GUM				UA184/6395 10:55pm 8:05am+1 1, 3, 4, 6, 7 via GUM			
UA6398/193 6:05pm 11:50pm 2, 5 via GUM-ROR				UA116/6395 11:55pm 8:05am+1 1, 3, 5, 6 via GUM			
SAIPAN-HONG KONG (HKG)				HONG KONG (HKG)-SAIPAN			
HX077 1:50am 5:15am 1, 4							

## UOG Press offers intimate look at Litekyan

The University of Guam Press invites the community to celebrate the release of its newest publication, *Lina'la': Portraits of Life at Litekyan*. This groundbreaking book features an incredible collection of photography, educational illustrations, research, and stories about the ancient village of Litekyan (Ritidian) in Northern Guam. The book's launch will take place from 5:30pm to 7pm on Thursday, July 26, at the historic Jose P. Lujan House, located at 167 Padre Palomo Street in Hagåtña. The book will be available for sale at the event for \$42.

"*Lina'la': Portraits of Life at Litekyan* is an especially unique and powerful publication that not only provides valuable information about such a significant historic and cultural site, but also about the history of the CHamoru people," said Victoria-Lola Leon Guerrero, managing editor of the University of Guam Press.

The book gives readers an

intimate understanding of Litekyan, one of the only places on Guam where every period of human life can still be traced. It also serves as a community resource that weaves the historic significance of the area with its modern-day community value and highlights recent efforts to protect Litekyan from restricted access to the area due to the U.S. military's plans to construct a nearby firing range.

*Lina'la': Portraits of Life at Litekyan* is a publication of the Richard Flores Taitano Micronesian Area Research Center (MARC), which holds the most extensive repository of information about Guam and Micronesia.

"The book features a stunning collection of photos that capture the artifacts and legacies of Litekyan, so it will be a vital addition to MARC's regional scholarship and storytelling resources," said Dr. Monique C. Storie, Interim Director of MARC.

This publication was funded

in part by a contribution from the Guam Preservation Trust, whose goal is to preserve and protect Guam's historic sites, culture, and perspectives for the benefit of the island's people and future. The book was also made possible through the contributions of images and information from Litekyan landowners, community organizations, traditional healers, cultural prac-

titioners, researchers, the Guam Wildlife Refuge, and local artists and photographers.

The community is also invited to learn more about Litekyan on July 28 during Archeology Day at the Guam Wildlife Refuge Ritidian Unit. Activities will be held at Litekyan throughout the day from 7:30am to 4:30pm. For more information about Archeology Day, contact the Guam National Wild-

life Refuge at 355-5096 or email Program Manager Dr. Larisa Ford at larisa\_ford@fws.gov.

For more information about the book and its launch, please contact Victoria-Lola M. Leon Guerrero at 735-2154 or victorialola@triton.uog.edu.

The University of Guam Press (www.uog.edu/uogpress) publishes an array of academic and literary books

and journals with a specific focus on the unique history, environment, peoples, cultures, and languages of the islands that make up the Western Pacific region. UOG Press strives to increase the availability of exceptional scholarly and literary texts that can be used as learning resources about Guam and Micronesia for people and institutions in the region and throughout the world. (PR)

## United Airlines adds 4 more flights to Guam-Nagoya service

**TAMUNING, GUAM**—In response to an increase in demand for travel between Japan and Guam, United Airlines is restoring four weekly flights between Guam and Nagoya from Dec. 2, 2018 through the end of March 2019. United currently operates one daily flight between Guam and Nagoya, and with the addition of four-weekly flights, business and leisure travelers will have more opportunities to travel between the two cities with 11

weekly flights operated with Boeing 737 aircraft. The additional four flights add more than 1,000 seats per week and over 16,000 seats between Guam and Japan to meet the increasing demand during the upcoming winter season as well as add convenient evening departure times in addition to the current morning departures.

This announcement follows United's recent reintroduction of the Boeing 777-200 aircraft

on two of three daily flights between Guam and Tokyo's Narita International Airport beginning Oct. 28, 2018, through March 30, 2019, offering customers nearly 900 daily seats each way between Tokyo and Guam, an 80-percent increase in available seats.

"We are extremely pleased to offer our customers

more opportunities to travel between Japan and Guam, and our additional four-times weekly service offers custom-

ers traveling from Nagoya more choice and convenient flight options to travel to Guam," said Sam Shinohara, United's managing director of Asia/Pacific.

Airport Operations, "Nagoya is one of the busiest airports connecting customers from Japan to Guam and these schedule enhancements are positive indicators for our island's tourism industry and economy."

United has also announced that it will operate eight extra flights, more than 2,000 seats, between Guam and Osaka, during November and December 2018 to meet the increasing demand. United currently operates one daily flight between Guam and Osaka, and the additional eight flights offer customers additional travel options including convenient evening departures from Guam and Osaka.

To help further meet the increasing demand for flights to Guam, United has increased flights for the 2018 summer peak season and will operate 20 additional flights between Aug. 2 through Aug. 27, including seven flights from Nagoya's Chubu Centrair International Airport and 13 flights from Tokyo/Narita. (PR)

### Guam-Nagoya Winter 2018/2019 Schedule (Dec. 2, 2018-March 30, 2019)

Flight No.	Depart Time	Arrive Time	Aircraft	Days
UA171 (new)	Guam 5pm	Nagoya 7:55pm	Boeing 737	Tue/Thu/Sat/Sun
UA172 (new)	Nagoya 8:50pm	Guam 1:25am (next day)	Boeing 737	Tue/Thu/Sat/Sun
UA 137	Guam 7:25am	Nagoya 10:15am	Boeing 737	Daily
UA 136	Nagoya 11:30am	Guam 4pm	Boeing 737	Daily

### Guam-Osaka Winter 2018/2019 Schedule (Nov. 1-Dec. 16, 2018)

Flight No.	Depart Time	Arrive Time	Aircraft	Days
UA 177 (new)	Guam 5pm	Osaka 8:05pm	Boeing 737	Nov. 1, 6, 13, and 29; Dec. 4, 13, 15, 16
UA 178 (new)	Osaka 9pm	Guam 1:35am (next day)	Boeing 737	Nov. 1, 6, 13, and 29; Dec. 4, 13, 15, 16
UA 151	Guam 7:10am	Osaka 10:10am	Boeing 737	Daily
UA 150	Osaka 11:05am	Guam 3:40pm	Boeing 737	Daily

Cover of *Lina'la': Portraits of Life at Litekyan*. CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

## Residents to visit Fena Cave on US Naval Base Guam

**SANTA RITA, GUAM**—As part of Liberation Day events, a site visit will be held at the Fena Cave located at the Naval Munitions Annex on U.S. Naval Base Guam this July 19.

The visit, coordinated between Naval Base Guam, the Agat Mayor's Office, and Navy Munitions Command Pacific East Asia Division Unit Guam, will precede a memorial held for Fena Cave Massacre victims at Old Agat Cemetery. Attendees are asked to meet at 8:30am at the cemetery where they

will board a bus and proceed to the cave site.

After the cave visit, a memorial will be held at 10am at the cemetery.

On July 19, 1944 the Fena Cave Massacre occurred, when Japanese soldiers killed more than 30 young men and women from Agat and Sumay with grenades and bayonets in the caves near Fena Lake. During the past several years, the NMG commanding officer has invited the victims' families to visit the cave as part of Liberation Day ceremonies. (PR)

Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands  
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Director, BECQ  
Dance E. Gano  
Director, DCRM

## PUBLIC NOTICE

### BECQ RELEASES 2018 DRAFT INTEGRATED WATER QUALITY ASSESSMENT REPORT

The CNMI Bureau of Environmental and Coastal Quality (BECQ), under the Office of the Governor, hereby notifies the public that the Draft 2018 305(b) and 303(d) Water Quality Assessment Integrated Report has been made available for public review and comment on BECQ's web page, [www.deq.gov.mp](http://www.deq.gov.mp).

Sections 303(d) and 305(b) of the U.S. Clean Water Act require that all states and territories, including the CNMI, monitor and assess all waters within the state and report the results to the public, USEPA, and the U.S. Congress every two years. Prior to final submittal to USEPA and the U.S. Congress, public review is required and DEQ must address comments received by the public.

BECQ invites the public to review and comment on the Draft 305(b) and 303(d) Water Quality Assessment Integrated Report, which may be downloaded from <http://www.deq.gov.mp/sec.asp?secID=71>, or by bringing a flash drive to the BECQ office at the Gualo Rai Center on Middle Road (across from the Subway restaurant).

Comments may be submitted through mail to Mr. Eliceo D. Cabrera, Administrator, Bureau of Environmental and Coastal Quality, P.O. Box 501304, Saipan, MP, 96950, or email to: [kathy.yuknavage@becq.gov.mp](mailto:kathy.yuknavage@becq.gov.mp).

Comments should contain the subject line "2018 IR Comments" or similar. All comments must be received by BECQ no later than August 19th, 2018, in order for the comments to be considered by BECQ in the preparation of the final Integrated Report.

Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands  
**HEALTH CARE PROFESSIONS LICENSING BOARD**  
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Pursuant to P.L. 8-41, Section 11, Governor Ralph DLG. Torres and Lt. Governor Victor B. Hocog, through the Health Care Professions Licensing Board (HCPLB) are hereby giving notice that it will hold its regular monthly board meeting on **Thursday, July 19, 2018 at 8 am** on Saipan. The meeting will be held at the CHCC Conference Room #2, Lower Navy Hill.

## AGENDA

- I. Meeting Call to Order
- II. Determination of Quorum
- III. Review and Adoption of Agenda
- IV. Review and Adoption of Minutes (06/28/18)
- V. Public Comments
- VI. Chairperson's Report
- VII. Director's Report
  - HCPLB Financial Report
  - Update reports on pending complaints
- VIII. Investigator's Report
- IX. Communications from the Governor's Office & Legislature
  - A. Governor's Office
  - B. Legislature
- X. Old Business
  - Substance Abuse Counselor Regulations
- XI. New Business
  - Hearing on the complaints against Taylor Ada, Becky Mettao and Alvin Tagabuel
  - Proposed Amendment to the HCPLB Legislation
- XII. Pending Applications for Board's Review
  - A. New Applications:
  - B. Renewal Applications:
- XIII. Miscellaneous Business
- XIV. Executive Session: The Board may vote to meet in executive session to consult with counsel with pending or anticipated legal matters.
- XV. Announcements
  - A. Next Meeting Date
  - B. Adjournment of Meeting

/s/ Theodore R. Parker, R.Ph., MPH  
Chairman

**Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands**  
**Commonwealth Judiciary Administrative Office**  
Guma' Hustisia, Iimwal Aweewe, House of Justice  
P.O. Box 502165, Saipan MP 96950  
Telephone (670) 236-9715 Facsimile (670)236-9702

**INVITATION TO BID**  
**ITB NO.: ITB 18-JUDICIARY-03**

**SUBMISSION: AUGUST 3RD, 2018** **TIME: 10:00 A.M.**  
**"TWO (2) NEW 2018-2019 VEHICLES (5 Door All-Wheel Drive Utility Vehicle)"**

COPIES OF THE SPECIFICATIONS MAY BE OBTAINED AT THE CASHIER WINDOW, WINDOW # 1, LOCATED AT THE FRONT OF GUMA HUSTISIA / IIMWAL AWEWE / HOUSE OF JUSTICE, SUSIPE, SAIPAN, DURING REGULAR WORKING HOURS.

THE PROVISIONS OF THE CNMI PROCUREMENT REGULATIONS, NMIAIC SECTIONS 70-30.3-725 AND 70-30.3-730 PROHIBITING GRATUITIES, KICKBACKS AND CONTINGENT FEES SHALL APPLY.

THE CNMI GOVERNMENT RESERVES THE RIGHT TO REJECT ANY OR ALL BIDS, OR PORTIONS THEREOF, AND WAIVE IMMATERIAL DEFECTS IF TO DO SO WOULD BE IN THE BEST INTEREST OF THE CNMI GOVERNMENT.

/S/ ALEXANDRO C. CASTRO  
JUDICIARY EXPENDITURE AUTHORITY

/S/ JOHN T. VILLAGOMEZ  
JUDICIARY PROCUREMENT OFFICE

# Business

## Japan, EU to sign widespread trade deal eliminating tariffs

**TOKYO** (AP)—The European Union and Japan are signing a widespread trade deal Tuesday that will eliminate nearly all tariffs, seemingly defying the worries about trade tensions set off by President Donald Trump's policies.

The signing in Tokyo for the deal, largely reached late last year, is ceremonial. It was delayed from earlier this month because Japanese Prime Minister Shinzo Abe canceled going to Brussels over a disaster in southwestern Japan, caused by extremely heavy rainfall. More than 200 people died from flooding and landslides.

European Council President Donald Tusk and European Commission President Jean-Claude Juncker, who arrived Monday, will also attend a gala dinner at the prime minister's official residence.

Both sides are heralding the deal, which covers a third of the global economy and more than 600 million people.

Prices of European wine and pork will fall for Japanese consumers. Japanese machinery parts, tea and fish will get cheaper for Europe.

The deal eliminates about



**AP** In this Nov. 20, 2014, file photo, bottles of Beaujolais Nouveau wine are displayed in a wine store at Issy Les Moulineaux, outskirts of Paris.

99 percent of the tariffs on Japanese goods to the EU, but remaining at around 94 percent for European imports into Japan for now and rising to 99 percent over the years. The difference is due to exceptions such as rice, a product that's

culturally and politically sensitive and has been protected for decades in Japan.

The major step toward liberalizing trade was discussed in talks since 2013 but is striking in the timing of the signing, as China and the U.S. are

embroiled in trade conflicts.

The U.S. is proposing 10 percent tariffs on a \$200 billion list of Chinese goods. That follows an earlier move by Washington to impose 25 percent tariffs on \$34 billion of Chinese goods. Beijing has responded by imposing

identical penalties on a similar amount of American imports.

Besides the latest deal with the EU, Japan is working on other trade agreements, including a far-reaching trans-Pacific deal. The partnership includes Australia, Mexico, Vietnam and other nations, although the

U.S. has withdrawn.

Japan praised the deal with the EU as coming from Abe's "Abenomics" policies, designed to wrest the economy out of stagnation despite a shrinking population and cautious spending. Japan's growth continues to be heavily dependent on exports.

By strengthening ties with the EU, Japan hopes to vitalize mutual direct investment, fight other global trends toward protectionism and enhance the stature of Japanese brands, the foreign ministry said in a statement.

The EU said the trade liberalization will lead to the region's export growth in chemicals, clothing, cosmetics and beer to Japan, leading to job security for Europe. Japanese will get cheaper cheese, such as Parmesan, gouda and cheddar, as well as chocolate and biscuits.

Japanese consumers have historically coveted European products, and a drop in prices is likely to boost spending.

## US challenges China, EU and others at WTO over steel tariffs

**WASHINGTON** (AP)—The Trump administration on Monday brought cases against China, the European Union, Canada, Mexico and Turkey at the World Trade Organization for retaliating against American tariffs on imported steel and aluminum.

The United States has imposed tariffs of 25 percent on steel and 10 percent on aluminum on the grounds that the imported metals pose a threat to U.S. national security. China, the EU, Canada, Mexico and Turkey have counterpunched with taxes on more than \$24 billion worth of U.S. exports.

U.S. Trade Rep. Robert Lighthizer said their retaliation violates the rules of the Geneva-based WTO, which mediates trade disputes.

"Instead of working with us to address a common problem, some of our trading partners have elected to respond with retaliatory tariffs designed to punish American workers, farmers and companies,"

Lighthizer said.

If the WTO agrees that the retaliatory duties violate its rules, it would assess the damage and calculate the tariffs that the United States would be entitled to impose in response—retaliation for the retaliation. But WTO proceedings can drag on for years.

In taxing imported steel and aluminum from some countries in March and others in June, President Donald Trump deployed a little-used weapon in American trade policy: Under the Trade Expansion Act of 1962, presidents are empowered to impose unlimited tariffs on imports that the Commerce Department asserts are threats to America's national security.

The WTO gives countries broad leeway to determine national security interests. But there was long an unwritten agreement that WTO member countries would use the national-security justification only very sparingly to avoid

abuses.

Trump's steel and aluminum tariffs broke that taboo. Now the Commerce Department is pursuing another, bigger national-security case against auto imports. Hearings on the proposed auto tariffs are set for Thursday and Friday in Washington.

Separately, Trump is engaged in a trade war with China over the aggressive tactics Beijing has used to challenge U.S. technological dominance. According to the Trump administration, these include outright cybertheft and forcing U.S. companies to hand over trade secrets in exchange for access to the Chinese market.

Last week, the administration announced 10 percent tariffs on \$200 billion worth of Chinese goods, which won't take effect until at least September. On Monday, China said that it filed a WTO challenge against those proposed U.S. tariffs.

## San Francisco to consider tax on companies to help homeless

**SAN FRANCISCO** (AP)—San Francisco voters will decide in November whether to tax large businesses to pay for homeless and housing services, an issue that set off a battle in another West Coast city struggling with income inequality.

The city elections department verified Monday that supporters had collected enough signatures to get the measure on the ballot. It would raise about \$300 million a year—doubling what San Francisco spends on homelessness—for more shelter beds and housing for people who are homeless or at risk of becoming so.

The money would come from an average half-percent tax increase on companies' revenue above \$50 million each year.

Homelessness is a major problem in San Francisco, as well as other cities on the West Coast with growing

numbers of high-paying tech jobs that price lower-income residents out of a shrinking housing supply. San Francisco's new mayor, London Breed, vowed to clear the streets of its tent camps within a year of taking office.

"I think the city is really ready for this," said Christina Evans, a San Francisco small-business owner and one of three petitioners on the measure. "We have a lot of momentum behind us, and more than a majority of the voting population is renters. We're polling very well."

Seattle leaders last month repealed a tax on large employers that was meant to fund homelessness services after Amazon pushed back.

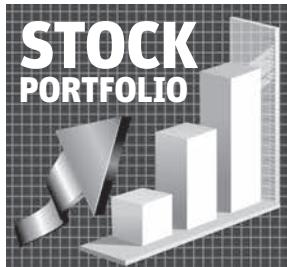
But south of San Francisco, Mountain View's City Council got a measure on the November ballot asking voters to authorize a tax on Google and other companies

with employees in the Silicon Valley city.

It's unclear which companies in San Francisco would be affected and how hard by the additional tax on gross receipts. Jim Lazarus, senior vice president of public policy for the San Francisco Chamber of Commerce, estimates up to 1,000 businesses generate more than \$50 million a year.

The companies could include Twitter, which declined to comment Monday. Other companies that could be affected, such as Uber, pharmaceutical distributor McKesson Corp., Google, Apple and Amazon did not respond to requests for comment.

Other businesses that could be affected include department stores, supermarkets, law firms and clothing makers such as Levi Strauss & Co., Lazarus said. The chamber will likely oppose the measure.



### LEADING INDICATORS

DOW	S&P	NASDAQ
25,064.36	2,798.43	7,805.72
+44.95	-2.88	-20.26
+0.18%	-0.10%	-0.26%

### EXCHANGE RATES

Australian Dollar	<b>1.3455</b>	Hong Kong Dollar	<b>7.8476</b>	Russian Ruble	<b>62.3520</b>
British Pound	<b>0.7547</b>	Indian Rupee	<b>67.7641</b>	Singapore Dollar	<b>1.3600</b>
Canadian Dollar	<b>1.3118</b>	Japanese Yen	<b>112.3770</b>	South Korean Won	<b>1102.40</b>
Chinese Yuan	<b>6.5805</b>	Malaysian Ringgit	<b>4.0010</b>	Swiss Franc	<b>0.9959</b>
Euro	<b>0.8536</b>	New Zealand Dollar	<b>1.4636</b>	Taiwan Dollar	<b>30.0121</b>
				Thailand Baht	<b>33.1975</b>

# Nation

## Republicans join Democrats in condemning Trump's remarks

WASHINGTON (AP)—“Bizarre.” “Shameful.” “Disgraceful.”

That's the swift and sweeping condemnation directed at President Donald Trump on Monday after he sided with Russian President Vladimir Putin during a stunning appearance in Helsinki — and that's just from the Republicans.

Lawmakers in both major parties and former intelligence officials appeared shocked, dismayed and uneasy with Trump's suggestion that he believes Putin's denial of interfering in the 2016 elections. It was a remarkable break with U.S. intelligence officials and the Justice Department. And just as alarming for some, Trump also put the two countries on the same footing when casting blame for their strained relations.

Sen. John McCain, R-Ariz., called it “one of the most disgraceful performances by an American president in memory.”

Sen. Ben Sasse, R-Neb., called it “bizarre.” Sen. Jeff Flake, R-Ariz., called it “shameful.” And Sen. Lindsey Graham, R-S.C., tweeted that it was a “bad day for the US.”

“This was a very good day for President Putin,” said Sen. Bob Corker, R-Tenn., the chairman of the Foreign Relations Committee. He said Trump's refusal to condemn Russian interference in the 2016 election makes the U.S.



Senate Minority Leader Chuck Schumer, D-N.Y., criticizes President Donald Trump's performance during his side-by-side news conference with Russia's Vladimir Putin in Helsinki, as he speaks to reporters on Capitol Hill in Washington, Monday, July 16, 2018.

“look like a pushover.”

Rep. Will Hurd, R-Texas, said he's seen Russian intelligence manipulate many people in his earlier career as a CIA officer. But, he tweeted, “I never would have thought that the US President would become one of the ones getting played by old KGB hands.”

House Speaker Paul Ryan weighed in to say there's “no question” that Russia interfered in the 2016 presidential election and “no moral equivalence” between the U.S. and Russia.

“The president must appreciate that Russia is not our ally,” Ryan, R-Wis., said in a statement. Russia, he said, “remains hostile to our most basic values and ideals.”

Much of the Republican rebuke came from lawmakers who have been willing to openly criticize the president, a group that remains a minority in the GOP.

Many top Republicans remained on the sidelines after the Justice Department on Friday indicted 12 Russian intelligence officials for election-

related hacking.

But several Republicans who don't typically buck the president raised concerns, shocked by Monday's performance.

Trump ally Newt Gingrich called it “the most serious mistake” of Trump's presidency — and one that “must be corrected — immediately.”

Democrats pleaded with their GOP colleagues who have majority control of

Congress to rein in the president and become a stronger legislative check on the executive branch.

Sen. Chuck Schumer, D-N.Y., the minority leader,

says never in the history of the country has an American president supported an adversary the way Trump sided with Putin. He challenged Republicans to move beyond words and confront the president directly by increasing sanc-

tions on Russia and requesting testimony about the summit from Trump administration officials, among other things.

“We need our Republican colleagues to stand up for the good of this country,” he said.

And House Minority Leader Nancy Pelosi, D-Calif., said Trump's weakness in front of Putin wasn't just “embarrassing” but also “proves that the Russians have something on the President, personally, financially or politically.”

Republicans have been hesitant to fully confront a president who remains popular among GOP voters back home. But Trump's hold on the GOP is being put to the test by his willingness to align with Putin, a leader whom Republicans routinely describe as an enemy of the United States.

Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell, R-Ky., repeated his earlier assessment that the Russians are “not our friends.” He said he has “complete confidence in our intelligence community and the findings.”

### Russian hackers used US online infrastructure against itself

WASHINGTON (AP)—

Exactly seven months before the 2016 presidential election, Russian government hackers made it onto a Democratic committee's network.

One of their carefully crafted fraudulent emails had hit pay dirt, enticing an employee to click a link and enter her password.

That breach of the Democratic Congressional Campaign Committee was the first significant step in gaining access to the Democratic National Committee network.

To steal politically sensitive information, prosecutors say, the hackers exploited some of the United States' own computer infrastructure against it, using servers they leased in Arizona and Illinois. The details were included in an indictment released Friday by special counsel Robert Mueller, who accused the GRU, Russia's military intelligence agency, of taking part in a wide-ranging conspiracy to interfere in the 2016 presidential election. The companies operating the servers were not identified in the court papers.

The Russians are accused of exploiting their access to inexpensive, powerful servers worldwide — conveniently available for rental — that can be used to commit crimes with impunity. Reaching across oceans and into networks without borders can obfuscate their origins.

The indictment painstakingly reconstructs the hackers' movements using web servers and a complex bitcoin financing operation.

Two Russian hacking units were charged with tasks, including the creation and management of a hacking tool called “X-agent” that was implanted onto computers.

The software allowed them to monitor activity on computers by individuals, steal passwords and maintain access to hacked networks. It captured each key-stroke on infected computers and took screenshots of activity displayed on computer screens, including an employee viewing the DCCC's online banking information.

From April to June 2016, the hackers installed updated versions of their software on at least 10 Democratic comput-

### ACROSS THE NATION

#### Officials: Pregnant woman killed, 2 kids hurt in shooting

ORLANDO, Fla. (AP)—Authorities say a pregnant woman was fatally shot and two children were wounded as someone fired from a moving vehicle during a chase in Florida. The Orlando Sentinel reports that the shooting occurred Monday afternoon in the Pine Hills area outside Orlando. The Orange County Sheriff's Office says a white car was chasing a silver car when someone in the white car opened fire. Deputies responding to an unrelated call nearby reported hearing at least 15 shots. Authorities say a 21-year-old pregnant woman was pronounced dead at an Orlando hospital. Officials say a 13-year-old girl was shot in the arm, and a 10-month-old boy suffered a graze wound. Deputies say they're seeking multiple suspects. The names of the victims weren't immediately released.

#### Man convicted of hate crime, arson in Texas mosque torching

VICTORIA, Texas (AP)—A man accused of torching a South Texas mosque last year has been convicted of federal arson and explosives charges and of a hate crime charge. A jury in Victoria, Texas, deliberated about three hours before convicting 26-year-old Marq Vincent Perez. Prosecutor Sharad Khandelwal said during the trial that a “rabid hatred” of Mus-

lims led Perez to set fire last year to an Islamic center in Victoria, destroying the building. Another prosecutor asserted that Perez aimed to terrorize Muslims along the middle Texas Gulf Coast and to cause damage and destruction. Perez, who denied involvement in the blaze, could be sentenced to up to 40 years in prison. Defense attorney Mark Di Carlo said he and his client were “very disappointed” but no decision has been made to appeal.

#### Sheriff's captain guilty of helping ‘Codfather’ smuggle cash

BOSTON (AP)—A Massachusetts sheriff's office captain has been convicted of helping a fishing magnate known as “The Codfather” smuggle profits of an illegal fishing scheme to Portugal. The U.S. attorney's office says Jamie Melo was convicted Monday of conspiracy to commit offenses against the United States and structuring the export of monetary instruments. The Bristol County Sheriff's Office captain was acquitted of bulk cash smuggling. Prosecutors say Melo asked friends and travel companies to carry envelopes of cash on a flight to Portugal for fishing magnate Carlos Rafael. Rafael pleaded guilty to charges including tax evasion and false labeling and fish identification. Defense attorney Gary Pelletier says Melo is disappointed in the verdict. Pelletier says Melo maintains his innocence and plans to appeal.

In emails, the hackers embedded a link that purported to be a spreadsheet of Clinton's favorability ratings, but instead it directed the computers to send its data to a GRU-created website.

Meanwhile, around the same time, the hackers broke into 33 DNC computers and installed their software on their network. Captured key-strokes and screenshots from the DCCC and DNC computers, including an employee viewing the DCCC's banking information, were sent back to the Arizona server.

# Asia

## Kim slams local N. Koreans for unfinished power plant

**SEOUL, South Korea**

(AP)—North Korean leader Kim Jong Un has blasted local officials over a delayed construction project, state media reported Tuesday, his second such rebuke over the economy in recent weeks.

It's unusual for state media to carry dispatches showing Kim's criticism of officials. Experts say Kim may be struggling to improve his country's moribund economy and intends to pass the responsibility for its economic woes on to officials before possibly launching new economic policies.

The latest fury, as Kim negotiates with the United States over abandoning his nuclear weapons programs, came during a visit to the power plant's construction site in the northeast. After officials briefed him about the project and its delays, he was "speechless" and "extremely enraged," the Korean Central News Agency reported.

The plan originally was ordered by Kim's late grandfather, North Korean founder Kim Il Sung, 30 years ago.

"Kim pointed out that the cabinet has specified the project as a target project that



should be accelerated," the KCNA report said.

Earlier this month, during visits to two textile factories, Kim also criticized officials for poor building maintenance, a failure to modernize

production lines, lack of expertise and other problems.

Since taking power when his dictator father Kim Jong Il died in late 2011, Kim, 34, has promised to boost living standards and sought to

project an image of youth and modernity while pushing hard to build up North Korea's nuclear capabilities.

Under his rule, the North's economy has gradually improved as some capitalist ele-

## Statelessness a hurdle for some boys rescued from Thai cave

**MAE SAI, Thailand** (AP)—The 12 boys and coach of the Wild Boars soccer team who were rescued from a cave in Thailand last week share a characteristic with many of the professional European clubs its youthful members idolize: They are a multiethnic, cross-border crew.

But while the stars of the major European leagues, no matter what their origins, can stake a claim to fame and fortune, some of the Wild Boars cannot even count on a permanent home.

Three of the players—Mongkol "Mark" Boonpium, 13, Adul Samon, 14, and Pornchai "Tee" Khamluang, 16—and 25-year-old assistant coach Ekapol "Ake" Chanthawong are stateless, their lack of citizenship not only restricting their upward mobility, but even their right to travel outside of Chiang Rai, the northern province where they live.

It is no anomaly that four of the 13 trapped in the cave are not Thai citizens, the Wild Boars' head coach, Nopparat Kanthawong, said in an interview. Of the 70-80 boys in the team's four age brackets, around 20 are stateless.

The cave ordeal should help put a spotlight on the issue of statelessness in Thai-

land. Nopparat hopes it will advance his players' sporting ambitions.

"I would ask media to highlight this situation they are facing," he said. "All of the kids who join the team, they all wish that they would be professional soccer players. But they would not be able to do so if they don't have nationalities."

He explained that the most glaring problem is that if his stateless players want to travel outside the province, they must get a pass with official permission, whether for personal affairs or a soccer competition.

Getting a passport to take up various European clubs' invitations to watch them play is an even bigger task.

There are 488,105 stateless people registered in Thailand, according to government statistics. The actual number could be as high as 3.5 million, according to the International Observatory on Statelessness.

The group says that stateless people in Thailand are unable to vote, buy land, seek legal employment, work in certain occupations or travel freely.

Northern Thailand, whose porous borders have long been a boon to migrants, refugees and smugglers, is a melting pot of ethnic groups, includ-

ing the Akha, Lahu, Lisu, Yao, Shan, Hmong and Karen. In neighboring Myanmar, the frontier regions are dominated by ethnic minority groups, but underdevelopment and conflict make opportunities scarce. Some people flee for their lives to Thailand; others just seek a better life.

It is not necessarily an uncomfortable transition. There are settled communities of minority groups on both sides of the border, and Thailand generally takes a laissez-faire attitude.

Adul's parents sent him from Myanmar to get a decent education in Thailand, which is impossible in his home state, Wa, which is plagued by armed conflict and instability. He is a star pupil, and a bit of a celebrity for being the sole English speaker among the 13 trapped in the cave. He also is reported to speak Thai, Burmese and Chinese.

"We found that in many cases, those who migrated here and those who fled life-threatening situations to come here aren't able to return to their origin countries," Angkhana Neelapajit of Thailand's National Human Rights Commission said Monday. "If

they have clear intentions to establish residency here, even

if they were born in neighboring countries but have children and residency here, at least the rights of children from these families should be protected."

She said those seeking to gain Thai citizenship must enter a verification process to prove that they either have Thai parents or were born in Thailand. The process can be difficult and complicated, she added, as officials also have to be vigilant over the many fraudulent and corrupt methods that are used to gain citizenship.

Activists say the naturalization process is too difficult, especially for less educated rural migrants who were never documented in their country of origin and who are outsiders as far as local Thai authorities are concerned. Navigating the paperwork is arduous at best, and corruption is a hazard.

In late 2016, Thailand's military government agreed to a plan under which an estimated 80,000 stateless people would be eligible for citizenship.

Applicants would have to be born in Thailand to parents from ethnic minority groups, registered by the Interior Ministry and have lived in Thailand for at least 15 years, or be born in Thailand to foreign residents and be university graduates.

**AP**  
In this undated photo provided on Tuesday, July 17, 2018, by the North Korean government, North Korean leader Kim Jong Un, left, gestures during his visit to a shipyard in North Hamgyong Province, North Korea.

ments such as outdoor markets have been allowed. U.N. sanctions that were toughened after nuclear and missile tests could take a huge economic toll if they continue, foreign experts say.

After entering disarmament talks with the United States earlier this year, Kim met in June with President Donald Trump and agreed to commit to "complete denuclearization of the Korean Peninsula." But there has been no major progress in the North's disarmament.

U.S. and South Korean officials say they are ready to help North Korea revive its economy if it gives up its nuclear program.

## Pakistan rights group issues warning ahead of polls

**ISLAMABAD** (AP)—Pakistan's independent Human Rights Commission warned Monday of "blatant, aggressive and unabashed" attempts to manipulate the results of elections set for later this month, with prominent activist I.A. Rehman calling it "the dirtiest election" in the country's troubled relationship with democratic rule.

The Human Rights Commission of Pakistan (HRCP) in its statement raised several warning flags including allegations that members of disgraced prime minister Nawaz Sharif's Pakistan Muslim League party were "being pressured to switch political loyalties," while some of Sharif's candidates were being asked to step down.

In jail since his return to Pakistan last week, Sharif is serving a 10-year sentence on corruption charges. On Monday he appealed the conviction as did his daughter, Maryam, and his son-in-law, who received seven and one-year sentences respectively also on charges of corruption over the family's purchase of luxury apartments in London. If the judge grants the appeal, Sharif could be released on bail.

Violence has escalated in the run-up to the balloting, with horrific attacks over the weekend killing 153 people, including a provincial assembly candidate during an

election rally in southwestern Baluchistan province.

In election-related violence, gunmen on Sunday night opened fire at the election headquarters of the secular Awami National Party in the town of Chaman in Baluchistan, wounding former senator Daud Achakzai who was campaigning for Zumurak Khan, a contender for a seat in the provincial legislature.

On Friday in Baluchistan's Mastung district, an Islamic State group suicide bomber killed Siraj Raisani, a candidate for the provincial assembly, along with 148 others during an election rally.

So far more than 170 people have died in election-related attacks, underscoring the security threat ahead of the vote.

The Human Rights Commission in its statement questioned a decision by the Election Commission of Pakistan to deploy 350,000 security personnel outside as well as inside polling station on election day.

Rehman expressed concern that the deployment of security personnel to the polling stations could intimidate voters. Instead Human Right Commission member and co-founder Hina Jilani said security personnel should be deployed to protect campaigns ahead of elections when the dangers are self-evident.

# World

## Trump questions US intel, not Putin, on Russia 2016 meddling

**HELSINKI** (AP)—Standing next to Russia's Vladimir Putin, President Donald Trump openly questioned his own intelligence agencies' conclusions that Moscow was to blame for meddling in the 2016 U.S. election to Trump's benefit and seemed to accept Putin's insistence that Russia's hands were clean.

Trump's comments, at a joint news conference Monday after summit talks with Putin, drew heavy criticism back in the U.S., including from prominent Republicans. Sen. John McCain was most outspoken, declaring that Trump made a "conscious choice to defend a tyrant" and achieved "one of the most disgraceful performances by an American president in memory." Sen. Bob Corker of Tennessee said Trump made the U.S. "look like a pushover."

In Helsinki, Putin said he did indeed want to Trump to win in 2016 — because of his policies — but took no action to make it happen.

"I have great confidence in my intelligence people, but I will tell you that President Putin was extremely strong and powerful in his denial today," said Trump, repeatedly denouncing the special counsel investigation into Russian interference efforts, which intelligence officials warn are ongoing.

### Puerto Ricans return to power grid, but fear for long term

**ADJUNTAS, Puerto Rico** (AP)—It was finally a night to celebrate in this village tucked into the mountains of central Puerto Rico.

People pressed TV remote buttons, clicked on fans and plugged in refrigerators as electricity again flowed into homes that had been without power since two major hurricanes devastated the U.S. territory nearly a year ago.

Lights are slowly coming on for the more than 950 homes and businesses across Puerto Rico that remain without power in hard-to-reach areas. Repair crews are sometimes forced to dig holes by hand and scale down steep mountainsides to reach damaged light posts. Electrical poles have to be ferried in one-by-one via helicopter.

It is slow work, and it has stretched nearly two months past the date when officials had promised that everyone in Puerto Rico would be energized.

And even as TVs glow into the night and people like 20-year-old delivery man Steven Vilella once again savor



U.S. President Donald Trump, left, and Russian President Vladimir Putin shake hand at the beginning of a meeting at the Presidential Palace in Helsinki, Finland, Monday, July 16, 2018.

"I don't see any reason why Russia would interfere in the 2016 election," Trump said.

It was an extraordinary press conference closing out the Trump-Putin summit, in which the American president delivered what amounted to a warm embrace to the man who for years has been isolated by

the U.S. and Western allies for Russia's activities in Ukraine, Syria and beyond.

Trump said he and Putin "spent a great deal of time" discussing allegations of Russian election meddling as they met for several hours Monday. But Trump declined the opportunity to denounce Putin

for the interference efforts, which U.S. intelligence agencies insist did occur, including hacking of Democratic emails, the subject of last week's indictment of 12 Russians.

Trump said, as he has countless times, that there was "no collusion" between his campaign and the Russians. "We ran

a brilliant campaign and that's why I'm president," he said.

Putin also suggested Monday that Moscow and Washington could jointly conduct criminal investigations into a dozen Russian intelligence officials accused of hacking during the 2016 U.S. election campaign — an idea Trump

provided just enough power to light one bulb in her kitchen and another in her living room for a couple hours each day.

Puerto Rico's electrical grid is still shaky after Hurricane Irma brushed past the island as a Category 5 storm last Sept. 6 and then Hurricane Maria made a direct hit as a Category 4 storm two weeks later, damaging up to 75 percent of transmission lines.

More than 52,000 power poles have been installed and thousands of miles of cable secured, with some 180 generators still providing power at key locations. But Gov. Ricardo Rossello warns that there is no backup system yet in case the power goes out again, which it did for up to 47,000 customers when the remnants of what was once Tropical Storm Beryl lashed Puerto Rico with rain and wind in early July.

A further complication is the lack of leadership at Puerto Rico's Electric Power Authority, which has seen four directors since Maria, the most recent one lasting only a day in the job.

### Obama praises Kenya's political reconciliation

**NAIROBI, Kenya** (AP)—Former U.S. President Barack Obama Monday praised Kenya's president and opposition leader for working together but said this East African country must do more to end corruption.

Obama, on his first visit to Africa since stepping down as president, commended President Uhuru Kenyatta and opposition leader Raila Odinga for cooperating following last year's disputed presidential election which were marked by violence.

"Despite some of the tumultuous times that seem to attend every election we now have a president and major opposition leader who have pledged to build bridges and have made specific commitments to work together," said Obama, speaking in Kogelo in Siaya County, the rural birthplace of his late father.

"So what we see here in Kenya is all part of an emergence of a more confident, more self-reliant Africa. But we know real progress means addressing the problems that remain. It means rooting out corruption that

hailed as an "incredible offer."

Asked if Russia could extradite the 12 Russian military intelligence officers, Putin challenged the U.S. to take advantage of a 1999 agreement envisaging mutual legal assistance.

He said the agreement would allow U.S. officials to request that Russian authorities interrogate the 12, adding that U.S. officials could request to be present in such interrogations.

Putin noted that Russia would expect the U.S. to return the favor and cooperate in the Russian probe against William Browder, a British investor charged of financial crimes in Russia. Browder was a driving force behind a U.S. law targeting Russian officials over human rights abuses.

The summit began just hours after Trump blamed the United States — and not Russian election meddling or its annexation of Crimea — for a low-point in U.S.-Russia relations.

"Our relationship with Russia has NEVER been worse," Trump tweeted Monday morning, blaming "many years of U.S. foolishness and stupidity and now, the Rigged Witch Hunt!"

The Russian foreign ministry responded by liking Trump's tweet and then replying: "We agree."

lenges because we are not able to see our son," said Boniface Rachula, a farmer from Kogelo who was turned away from the event.

"We wanted to appreciate Barack Obama for what he has done. In fact he has developed the community through giving iron sheets for people to build their houses," he said.

Obama's current visit to Kenya is low key, unlike his previous trips where he electrified thousands of Kenyans who lined the streets to see him.

Many Kenyans consider Obama native to this country—a local kid made good—and bask in the glory of his success, despite the fact that he never lived in Africa. He was born in Hawaii, where he spent most of his childhood raised by his mother, a white American from Kansas. He barely knew his father for whom he was named, Barack Obama, an economist.

"It is a joy to be with so many people who are family to me and so many people who claim to be family to me. Everybody is a cousin," Obama said in jest.

# Focus

## Young Nubians revive dream of returning to land in Egypt

By HAMZA HENDAWI

ASSOCIATED PRESS

**ASWAN, Egypt** (AP)—The world of their parents and grandparents was turned upside down more than 50 years ago when they were evacuated from villages along the Nile River to make way for the High Dam. Now a younger generation has revived the long-dormant cause of Egypt's Nubians, campaigning for a return to their lands and struggling to preserve their culture.

Their timing could not have been worse.

Recent peaceful marches by Nubians were met by swift suppression from the government of President Abdel-Fattah el-Sissi, which has shown little tolerance for dissent. To a state dominated by the military and security agencies, Nubians' assertion of their distinct identity and heritage amid the Arab majority looks like a threat to stability.

"This country has so many colors and ethnicities, and it is so destructive that we are trying to give it just one identity," said Fatmeh Imam, a Nubian activist born and raised in Cairo. Even during her days at university, she recalled, the message instilled was that the country should be homogeneous.

"It is painful for me that I am unable to manifest my identity," she said. "I see Egypt as a mosaic."

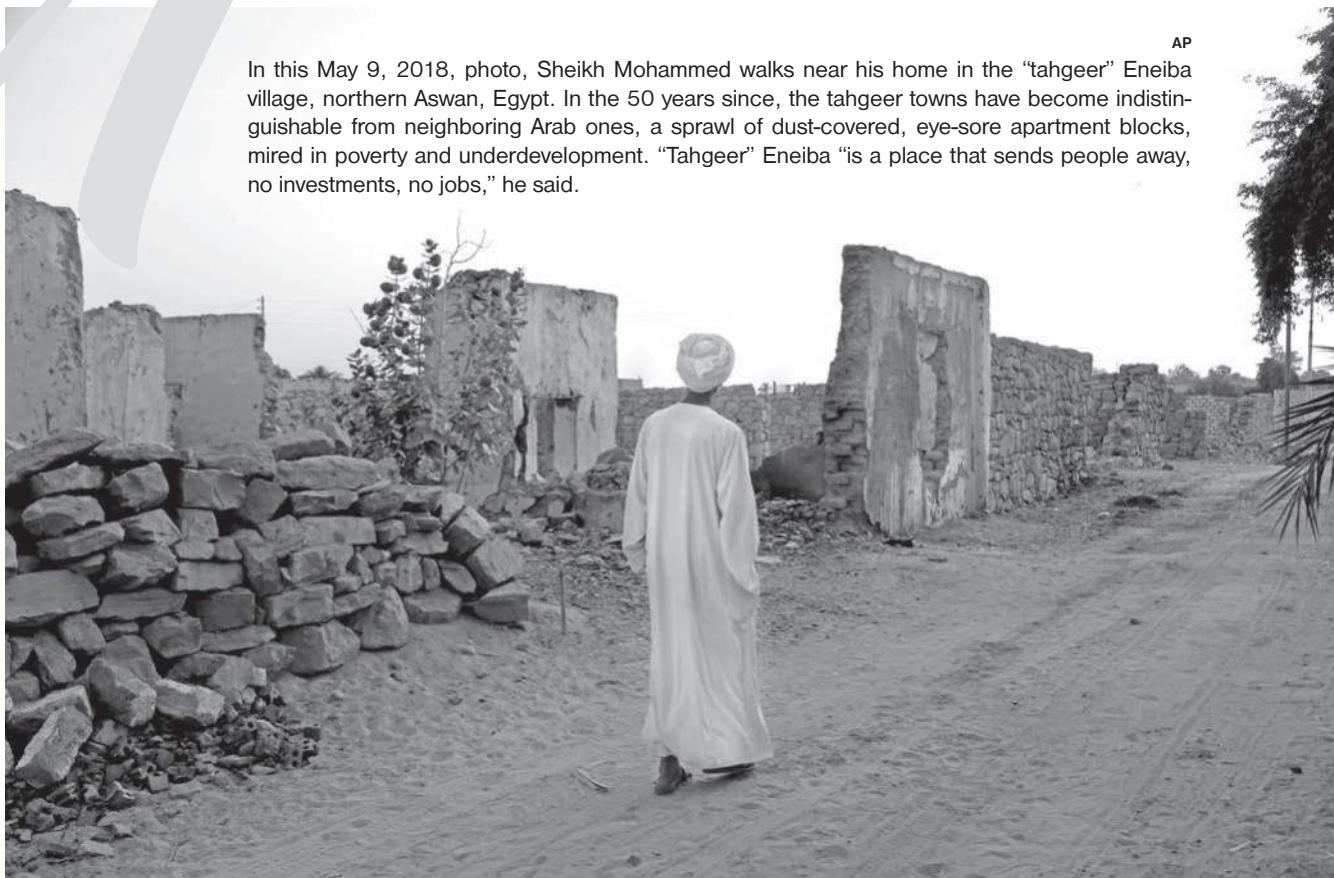
Nubians are an ancient ethnic group who from Pharaonic times lived along the Nile in a stretch of territory from southern Egypt to northern Sudan, even becoming rulers for a period in the 25th Dynasty 3,000 years ago. Darker skinned than most Egyptians, they have a language and culture distinct from the country's Arab majority.

The 20th century brought a series of displacements, starting with the construction of the first reservoir at Aswan in 1902. The biggest came with the construction of the Aswan High Dam in the 1950s and 1960s under the rule of the charismatic, authoritarian Gamal Abdel-Nasser. Some 50,000 were subjected to forced resettlement in 1963 and 1964, and the creation of Lake Nasser flooded their ancestral homeland.

Their dream since has been to return to land along the lake near their original villages.

Nubian activists have found inspiration from the 2011 pro-democracy uprising that overthrew autocrat

In this May 9, 2018, photo, Sheikh Mohammed walks near his home in the "tahgeer" Eneiba village, northern Aswan, Egypt. In the 50 years since, the tahgeer towns have become indistinguishable from neighboring Arab ones, a sprawl of dust-covered, eye-sore apartment blocks, mired in poverty and underdevelopment. "Tahgeer" Eneiba "is a place that sends people away, no investments, no jobs," he said.



Hosni Mubarak. In 2014, there seemed to be a breakthrough when the crafters of a new constitution included a clause that for the first time recognized Nubians as an ethnic group and committed the state to organize their return to traditional lands and develop those areas by 2024.

Young Nubian activists are working to preserve their identity and demanding a return to their homeland

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=EscByayQpuQ&feature=youtu.be>

But so far, nothing concrete has been done, activists say.

Succeeding a generation traumatized by displacement, young Nubian activists say they are determined to bring change.

"You must not be worried about the future. I personally feel that the future, God willing, will be dear and generous for all of you." —Egyptian President Gamal Abdel-Nasser, addressing Nubians in 1960.

Older Nubians remember vividly their lives in their original land. They talk of sprawling villages of large houses painted in brilliant colors spread out along the Nile. Receding river waters after annual floods left fertile land for crops.

Most important was the bond with the Nile. For generations they lived on its banks. Their rituals were closely linked to it. They would baptize their children in its waters, and before weddings, grooms would bathe in the river. On holidays they would

float dishes of food on its current to the river's mythical guardians. Though Muslim, Nubians have traditions from their Christian past mixed in with their identity; for example, at weddings the guests often call to Jesus and Mary for blessings as well as to Islam's Prophet Muhammad.

When the government resettled the Nubians in the 1960s, it told them they were making a major sacrifice for Egypt's progress, giving up their villages for the sake of a dam that would electrify and modernize the nation.

In return, the authorities promised, the socialist system would ensure them a prosperous future: new, model homes with electricity, running water, and farmlands awaited them.

Officials raced to evacuate the Nubians as the Nile's waters rose. Nubians of that generation recall families frantically packing possessions and pulling livestock to river-boats as officials, soldiers and members of the only political party at the time, the Socialist Union, shouted, "Yallah, yallah!" —"Come on!"

The Nubians were moved to 44 new villages, mostly clumped around the area of Kom Ombo, north of Aswan, more than 200 kilometers (120 miles) from their home region.

What they found was a startling blow. In some villages, houses hadn't been built yet—there were just chalk outlines. Houses that were ready were small and cramped. Often there was no running water or electricity. Farmland couldn't be farmed because a canal

hadn't been built yet.

Even worse for the Nubians, most of the villages were miles away from the Nile. The fact that all the new villages bore the same names as the Nubians' now submerged home villages seemed almost cruel. They became known as the villages of "tahgeer," or exile.

"People felt they were deceived and the first few years here were very tough," Mohammed Dawoud, 71, recalled as he sat in a mosque after the sunset prayers in Abu Simbel, one of the tahgeer villages.

Nubians to this day still feel the trauma of having their community shattered. Many left the impoverished new villages for Cairo, Alexandria and other cities to find jobs, often as household servants or doormen. Customs fell away. Though the Nubian language is still spoken in some homes, it is not taught in schools, nor is Nubian history or culture. There is no official data, but some estimates put the number of Nubians today at 3.5 million to 5 million.

In the 50 years since, the tahgeer towns have become indistinguishable from neighboring Arab ones, a sprawl of dust-covered, eye-sore apartment blocks, mired in poverty and underdevelopment.

Speaking Arabic haltingly with a heavy Nubian accent, Naemah Hussein, an 85-year-old grandmother, said her house in her original home village of Eneiba was right on the banks of the Nile, where she baptized her first two children. Eneiba at the time had one of the best river

ports in the country, built by the British in the 1930s.

Now she lives in the "tahgeer" Eneiba. Since being evacuated there, she had four more children.

The town "is a place that sends people away, no investments, no jobs," one of her sons said.

It is also far from the Nile.

"Well, it's a life," Hussein said with bitter resignation. "Now I don't even see the river in my dreams."

"Our children are scattered everywhere working as help, serving the grandchildren of the foreigners and Pashas. And we are here, left like goats in the devil's valley. ... They killed us, my son. The folks with light skin killed us." —From the short story "Adela, My Grandmother," or "Farewell, My Grandmother," by Haggag Oddoul.

Haggag Oddoul, at 74, has spent a lifetime chronicling the miseries of the Nubians' displacement in dozens of novels and short stories while campaigning for the rights of his community.

He calls the Nubians' uprooting "the murder of a culture." Successive governments, he said, have sought to dissolve the community into the broader Arab-dominated identity, seeing any diversity as a threat and suspicious that the Nubians, if back in their lands, will seek to secede. He dismissed any doubts over Nubians' loyalties.

"We are part of the date palms and the Nile," told the AP at his home, a small, high-rise apartment he shares with

his wife in Alexandria, the city where he was born.

Oddoul sat on the commission that wrote the 2014 constitution and was a driving force in winning the inclusion of the clause recognizing the Nubians' right to return.

He sees that as a gain—"I still think the constitution is more than just ink on paper."

But, he said, Nubians will never get their rights without pushing for them. He cited as his inspiration the civil rights movement in the United States and the fiery rhetoric of the late heavyweight boxing champion Muhammad Ali.

Today's generation, he said, is less willing to put up with discrimination, pointing to the stereotype of the Nubian among Egyptians as a happy servant—the cheerful waiter or the loyal doorman.

"Young Nubians are aggressive now," he said. "I personally have become fed up with the stereotypical good Nubian. Now, I am the aggressive Nubian."

"They (Nubians) are going to a place where they will be compensated for oppression, humiliation and unemployment with justice, dignity, work and prosperity." —Hikmat Abu Zeid, minister of Social Solidarity, addressing Nubians before evacuations began in 1963.

Siham Othman, a 30-year-old teacher born in Aswan, was raised on stories of the old country. After the evacuation, her family ended up in Alexandria and her grandfather became a merchant sailor, traveling the world.

When he told her stories, it was never about his travels, only about Nubia, she said.

"He is the one who planted the dream of return in me," she said.

"The older generation of Nubians accepted the status quo," she said. "Their activism was restricted to conferences, but no street activism. Now there is a new spirit."

But it's proving difficult. Othman is among 50 Nubian activists now on trial, facing charges that could land them in prison for up to five years, after protests last year.

In September, around 100 Nubians marched through Aswan, singing traditional songs and beating drums. Police quickly broke it up, arresting more than two dozen. One of them, a well-known activist suffering from multiple health issues, died in custody, prompting a new protest and a

See YOUNG on Next Page

# Good Housekeeping

## Sun Parasol mandevillas celebrate fifteen years of stunning tropical flower color

By NORMAN WINTER  
TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

Fifteen years ago, the Sun Parasol mandevilla made its debut in the country and those of us who were present knew this tropical climber was here to stay. What we didn't know

was that this series giving a tropical magic to the garden would one day feature 21 varieties. We could not have imagined a red and white striped selection, like Stars and Stripes, a soft orange like the Sun Parasol Apricot or a Giant Red Emperor with the ability to climb 10

to 15 feet and produce flowers 3 to 5-inches wide.

Every time we thought they couldn't do it, the breeders from Suntory did. Including creating varieties that produced so many flowers that the only way you could count them would be by pulling them off one at a time. Even that would be considered a laborious task.

Sun Parasols mandevillas are found in three major groups the Pretty Group, Giant Group, and Original Group. Then there is the Designer Group with currently one selection Designer White, and two individual colors, Sun Parasol Apricot and Sun Parasol Garden Crimson. All are simply dazzling and worth every penny for your garden dollar.

At the Coastal Georgia Botanical Gardens, we used Pretty Pink trained on bamboo poles. They gave a cloud-like bouquet of pink towering above pentas, iresine, and Diamond Frost euphorbia. At Jekyll Island Georgia a top tourist destination, they were in large mixed containers and mesmerized visitors with the abundance of flowers.

Last year when I saw Sun Parasol Apricot at a shopping center in Columbus, Ga., I was stunned by its color and could not take my eyes off the creative combination that

featured it with blue scaevola a complementary partnership that before had been impossible. Sun Parasol Red Emperor in the Giant Group made its debut in 2014 with huge 3 to 5-inch deep red flowers produced all summer on a plant that is supercharged.

As with most plants I write about, these Sun Parasol mandevilla hybrids need well-drained soil to survive. This is one of the reasons that these containers and baskets are so healthy and picturesque. If we prepare our landscape soil to make it organic-rich, we can duplicate the results in the containers.

For best blooming, you will want your mandevilla to receive at least six to eight hours of sunlight a day. Since it is such a vigorous vine and flower producer, it needs small doses of fertilizer every two to three weeks.

In containers or baskets that get watered every day fertilization is mandatory. Frequently, dilute applications of a water-soluble fertilizer like a 20-20-20 to keep the plants at



Red Emperor is one of 21 selections available in the Sun Parasol series.

peak performance. Be sure to maintain moisture during the hot, dry times of the summer. A prolonged period without water may prove fatal to the plant.

The Sun Parasol mandevilla is the perfect plant to get

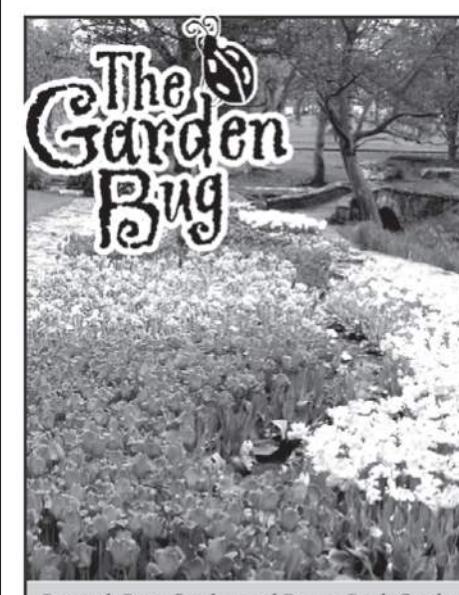
you started growing vertically in the garden. Sure, you can grow it on the street side mailbox, but why not also grow up on a Victorian tower, a lamp post, a lattice trellis, or the classic white picket fence. Can you just imagine the look of a Saba or St. Bart's Caribbean Cottage?

We have a lot of hot growing season to go and if your landscape could use some pizzazz from tropical color then get to the garden center quickly for the Sun Parasol mandevilla.

Norman Winter, horticulturist, garden speaker and author of, "Tough-as-Nails Flowers for the South" and "Captivating Combinations: Color and Style in the Garden." Follow him on Facebook @NormanWinterTheGardenGuy.



Sun Parasol Apricot is one of the rarest colors of mandevilla available.



Reinisch Rose Garden and Doran Rock Garden, Topeka, Kansas

### Gardens and arboreta

A botanical garden is a live exhibit of collected plants, sometimes designed with a special theme. Arboreta are similar but specifically devoted to trees. Wikipedia provides a list of all such places found in each state, district or territory of the United States, and many of those listed are linked to their websites. - Brenda Weaver

Source: wikipedia.org



TNS

Red Emperor produces large 5-inch flowers and is quite the thriller plant in the colorful mixed basket.

### YOUNG

From Page 18

new wave of arrests.

The previous year, a convoy of cars set out from Aswan toward Nubian lands. They were intercepted by security forces and, after a four-day standoff, forced to return to Aswan.

"The government is becoming more and more hard line in its approach to the Nubian question," Othman said.

That appears to be at least in part because of security agencies' hand over the issue. Soon after passage of the 2014 constitution, parliament drafted a law for developing Nubian lands, but intelligence agencies objected to some provisions, said a senior official involved in the issue. He spoke on condition of anonymity because he was not authorized to talk to the press.

Then el-Sissi issued a decree extending a security zone along the border with Sudan, a major route for mil-

itants entering Egypt to join an insurgency in the Sinai. The expansion put a number of areas the Nubians want to return to inside the zone, where settlement is barred.

In May, parliament passed a law creating a state agency to economically develop all of southern Egypt, but it made no specific mention of the Nubians. Activists oppose the law, saying it aims to dilute their cause by grouping it in with broader development.

In a debate over the legislation, parliament speaker Ali Abdel-Al, a close el-Sissi supporter, echoed the attitude that recognizing Nubian identity threatens stability. He called the constitutional clause about Nubians "a land mine" and said referring to any group of Egyptians by their ethnic identity was dangerous.

During a visit to Aswan last year, el-Sissi spoke broadly about fulfilling Nubian demands, but talked about development without mentioning return.

"The government wants to implement the constitution and wants to see the Nubians return to their region. But this needs time," Mustafa Bakry, a lawmaker close to the military who has mediated between activists and the government, told the AP.

The slow pace and the crackdown have convinced some activists that return will not happen any time soon. They are focusing on rescuing Nubian culture from disappearance. One has launched a YouTube channel that broadcast in Nubian for two hours every day. Another developed a mobile app to teach young people the Nubian language.

Fatmah Imam said activists must not let up the pressure, which she argued has succeeded in forcing officials to talk about the issue. "We have no choice but to continue our struggle," she said.

"From what I see, there's a lot of suppressed anger among Nubians. It has not come to surface yet."

# Life & Style

## Hulk Hogan reinstated into wrestling Hall of Fame

**T. PETERSBURG, Fla.** (AP)—World Wrestling Entertainment Inc. has reinstated Hulk Hogan to its Hall of Fame, three years after he was found to have used racial slurs in a conversation caught on a sex tape.

The Connecticut-based company made the announcement in a statement Sunday.

“This second chance follows Hogan’s numerous public apologies and volunteering to work with young people, where he is helping them learn from his mistake,” the organization wrote.

Hogan told his 2.2 million followers on Twitter: “I’ve been praying for this day and I finally feel like I made it back home. Only Love 4 the #WWEUNIVERSE brother,” he wrote.

The 64-year-old Hogan, whose real name is Terry Bollea, apologized in 2015 for using “offensive language” in a conversation many years before that. On the recording, he was caught talking about his daughter sleeping with a black man and used the “N” word.

“It was unacceptable for me

**CNN’s Cooper calls Trump’s summit performance ‘disgraceful’**

**NEW YORK** (AP)—Seconds after President Donald Trump’s news conference with Russian President Vladimir Putin ended Monday, CNN anchor Anderson Cooper called the American leader’s performance “disgraceful.”

It was the most startling of several strong media reactions to the session, televised live by the largest American broadcasters and cable news networks, primarily because of Cooper’s role. He was the news anchor directing CNN’s coverage, as opposed to a pundit paid to be opinionated.

“You have been watching perhaps one of the most disgraceful performances by an American president at a summit in front of a Russian leader, certainly that I’ve ever seen,” he said.

Cooper later said it was embarrassing and compared the way Trump repeatedly brings up the issue of former opponent Hillary Clinton’s emails to something the autistic lead character in the movie “Rain Man” might do.

For the president, it’s likely to add another to his list of grievances about a network he has denounced as “fake news.” The White House over the weekend took action following CNN reporter Jim Acosta’s attempt to interject a question into a Trump news



In this April 3, 2005, file photo, Hulk Hogan fires up the crowd between matches during WrestleMania 21 in Los Angeles. AP

to have used that offensive language; there is no excuse for it; and I apologize for having done it,” Hogan said at the time.

The comments came to light in a joint report from RadarOnline.com and The National Enquirer, which said Hogan had used racial slurs in

a conversation caught on a sex video that was the subject of an invasion of privacy lawsuit.

Hogan, perhaps the biggest star in WWE’s five-decade history, was the main draw for the first WrestleMania in 1985 and was a fixture for years in its signature event, facing

everyone from Andre The Giant and Randy Savage to The Rock and even company chairman Vince McMahon. He won six WWE championships and was inducted into the WWE Hall of Fame in

2005 by Sylvester Stallone.

But he was able to transcend his “Hulkamania” fan base to become a celebrity outside the wrestling world, appearing in numerous movies and television shows, including a reality



Cooper

race over Clinton.

“It’s hard to find words to describe,” ABC’s George Stephanopoulos said after the news conference. “All of you who are watching today will be able to tell your friends, family, your children, your grandchildren you were watching a moment of history. It may not be for the right reasons.”

Added NBC’s Hallie Jackson: “I think a fair word would be extraordinary. I have covered this president since the moment he was sworn in and have never been at a press conference like this one.”

CBS’ Margaret Brennan said she was messaging some U.S. officials during the speech who said they were turning off the television. “It’s a punch in the gut,” she said.

There were mixed reactions on Fox News Channel, whose commentators usually represent Trump’s biggest supporters. Fox will have a key role in the leaders’ attempt to spin the summit, since Trump is being interviewed by Sean Hannity on Monday night, and Putin has sat down with Chris Wallace on Monday. An interview with Trump by Tucker Carlson will air on Fox on Tuesday night.

### Box Office Top 20: ‘Hotel Transylvania 3’ beats ‘Skyscraper’

**LOS ANGELES** (AP)—Family-friendly won out this weekend among North American moviegoers as “Hotel Transylvania 3: Summer Vacation” towered over Dwayne Johnson’s action pic

“Skyscraper.”

Sony’s “Hotel Transylvania 3” easily took the No. 1 spot with \$44.1 million in ticket sales, while No. 2 went to last

week’s champ, “Ant-Man and The Wasp,” with \$29.1 million.

“Skyscraper” landed in third place with only \$24.9 million. The film cost a reported \$125 million to produce, before marketing costs.

Fourth place went to Disney’s “Incredibles 2,” with \$16.3 million. The film has now made \$535.9 million domestically. And “Jurassic

World: Fallen Kingdom” rounded out the top five with \$16.2 million.

The top 20 movies at U.S. and Canadian theaters Friday through Sunday, followed by distribution studio, gross, number of theater locations, average receipts per location, total gross and number of weeks in release, as compiled Monday by comScore:

1. “ <b>Hotel Transylvania 3: Summer Vacation</b> ,” Sony, \$44,076,225, 4,267 locations, \$10,330 average, \$45,352,609, 1 Week.	5.228 average, \$5,273,833, 2 Weeks.
2. “ <b>Ant-Man and The Wasp</b> ,” Disney, \$29,097,859, 4,206 locations, \$6,918 average, \$133,083,084, 2 Weeks.	8. “ <b>Sicario: Day Of The Soldado</b> ,” Sony, \$3,881,050, 2,006 locations, \$1,935 average, \$43,231,395, 3 Weeks.
3. “ <b>Skyscraper</b> ,” Universal, \$24,905,015, 3,782 locations, \$6,585 average, \$24,905,015, 1 Week.	9. “ <b>Uncle Drew</b> ,” Lionsgate, \$3,186,625, 1,702 locations, \$1,872 average, \$36,653,665, 3 Weeks.
4. “ <b>Incredibles 2</b> ,” Disney, \$16,262,898, 3,705 locations, \$4,389 average, \$535,861,390, 5 Weeks.	10. “ <b>Ocean’s 8</b> ,” Warner Bros., \$2,907,356, 1,618 locations, \$1,797 average, \$132,253,292, 6 Weeks.
5. “ <b>Jurassic World: Fallen Kingdom</b> ,” Universal, \$16,199,430, 3,695 locations, \$4,384 average, \$363,981,645, 4 Weeks.	11. “ <b>Won’t You Be My Neighbor?</b> ,” Focus Features, \$1,947,845, 868 locations, \$2,244 average, \$15,886,132, 6 Weeks.
6. “ <b>The First Purge</b> ,” Universal, \$9,312,530, 3,038 locations, \$3,065 average, \$49,690,500, 2 Weeks.	12. “ <b>Tag</b> ,” Warner Bros., \$1,291,301, 982 locations, \$1,315 average, \$51,333,258, 5 Weeks.
7. “ <b>Sorry To Bother You</b> ,” Annapurna Pictures, \$4,208,881, 805 locations, \$7,201 average, \$2,539,345, 3 Weeks.	13. “ <b>Three Identical Strangers</b> ,” Neon Rated, \$1,202,571, 167 locations, \$42,948,289, 6 Weeks.
14. “ <b>Leave No Trace</b> ,” Bleecker Street, \$1,172,726, 311 locations, \$3,771 average, \$2,135,017, 3 Weeks.	15. “ <b>Deadpool 2</b> ,” 20th Century Fox, \$786,787, 588 locations, \$1,338 average, \$316,242,407, 9 Weeks.
16. “ <b>Avengers: Infinity War</b> ,” Disney, \$621,380, 375 locations, \$1,657 average, \$676,024,817, 12 Weeks.	17. “ <b>Whitney</b> ,” Roadside Attractions, \$547,699, 408 locations, \$1,342 average, \$2,370,121, 2 Weeks.
18. “ <b>Sanju</b> ,” Fox International Productions, \$513,467, 223 locations, \$2,303 average, \$7,134,672, 3 Weeks.	19. “ <b>Heredity</b> ,” A24, \$429,314, 305 locations, \$1,408 average, \$42,948,289, 6 Weeks.
20. “ <b>Solo: A Star Wars Story</b> ,” Disney, \$407,791, 315 locations, \$1,295 average, \$211,920,767, 8 Weeks.	

# Stormy Daniels set to perform in Ohio 3 weeks after arrest

**COLUMBUS, Ohio** (AP)—Porn star Stormy Daniels is set to return to Ohio next month, three weeks after her arrest at a Columbus strip club on charges that were later dropped.

Daniels is known for claiming that she had sex with Donald Trump before he became president. Trump has denied that.

The manager of the Vanity Gentlemen's Club tells The Columbus Dispatch that Daniels will perform there Aug. 1 and 2. Daniels also has previously scheduled appearances at a Dayton-area club Aug. 3 and 4.

Daniels appeared last week at Vanity a day after being arrested at a different club for interacting too closely with patrons who were undercover officers.

Columbus police say they're reviewing the officers' motivations. The head of the local police union says politics weren't a factor in Daniels' arrest.



This photo provided by the Franklin County Sheriff's Office on Thursday, July 12, 2018, shows porn actress Stormy Daniels.

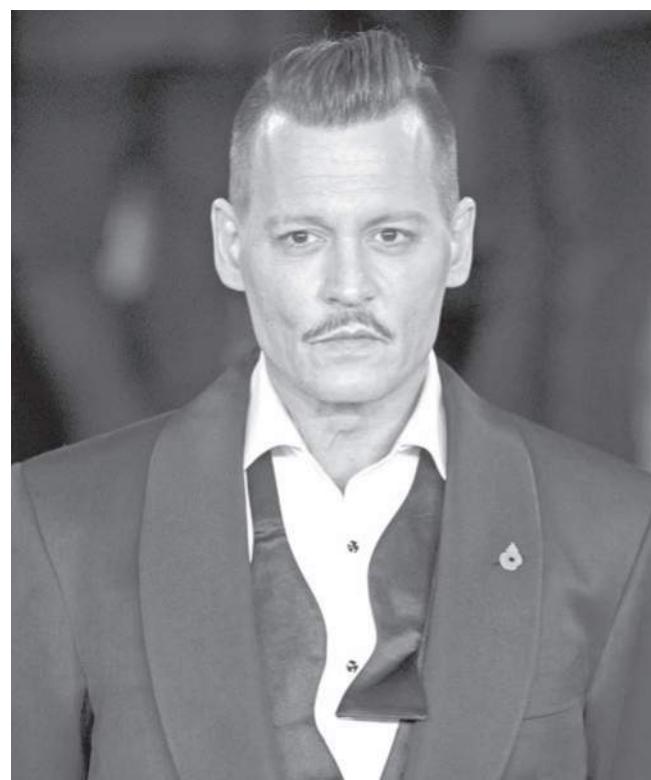
## Johnny Depp settles lawsuits involving former managers

**LOS ANGELES** (AP)—Johnny Depp has settled lawsuits with his former business managers that put a spotlight on the actor's lavish lifestyle.

Depp's representatives said on Monday that the "Pirates of the Caribbean" star had settled litigation filed against The Management Group, which he accused in January 2017 seeking more than \$25 million over alleged financial abuse and negligence. No details of the settlement were released.

Depp had accused the firm of filing his taxes late, costing him \$7.5 million in penalties. The firm denied filing the returns late, and said Depp's taxes were paid when the star had money available to pay them.

The firm also countersued and argued that Depp was solely to blame for his money troubles, spending more than \$2 million a month. That lawsuit said Depp paid more



In this Nov. 2, 2017 file photo, actor Johnny Depp poses at the world premiere of the film "Murder on the Orient Express", in London.

## Iran arrests 46 in fresh crackdowns on Instagram models

**TEHRAN, Iran** (AP)—Iranian authorities have arrested dozens of people in fresh crackdowns on models and associated colleagues posting "immoral images" online.

The official IRNA news agency reported Monday that officials in the southern port city

of Bandar Abbas, some 1250 kilometers, or 630 miles, south of the capital Tehran, arrested eight women and 36 other people in the photography, beauty salons and wedding businesses who used Instagram to share what they considered indecent images and clips.

Police said they were "damaging public virtue through the organized spreading of anti-cultural" activities.

Iran conducts regular similar crackdowns to combat western cultural influence which draws the ire of the Islamic Republic's hard-liners.

## Madonna back in Malawi; now considering soccer academy

**BLANTYRE, Malawi** (AP)—Madonna has returned to Malawi to celebrate the first anniversary of a medical facility named after one of the four children she adopted children from this southern African country.

The pop star on Monday visited the Mercy James Institute for Pediatric Surgery and Intensive Care at the Queen Elizabeth Central Hospital in Blantyre. Her charity funded



U.S. singer Madonna speaks to the press at a news conference in Blantyre, Malawi, Monday, July 16, 2018.

them hope."

The pop star is considering a new project in Malawi, thanks to adopted son David Banda.

The plan? Establish a soccer academy. David Banda says he dreams of Malawi making it to the World Cup.

## Saudi Arabia bans many video games after children's deaths

**RIYADH, Saudi Arabia**

(AP)—Saudi Arabia says it's banning a long list of popular video games after allegations surfaced that two children killed themselves after being encouraged to do so in an online game.

The Saudi General Commission for Audio-Visual Media said Monday it was banning 47 games, including Grand Theft Auto V, Assassins Creed 2 and Witcher, for unspecified violations of rules

and regulations.

The ban was in response to the deaths of a 13-year-old girl and a 12-year-old boy who reportedly killed themselves after playing the so-called "Blue Whale" social media game, though the agency did not say what the connection was.

Also known as the Blue Whale Challenge, participants are said to be given a series of tasks to complete, capped with killing themselves at the end.

## Grandma is at a loss for words of advice for smitten grandson

**D**EAR ABBY: I have guardianship of my 12-year-old grandson. He has recently fallen head over heels for a girl in his class and wants to date her. I am out of touch with the younger generation, and I'm not sure how to answer his questions, like, "Does the boy or girl initiate the kiss?" I would appreciate knowing about any pamphlets or brochures you have for sale on this subject. Thank you.

MARGARET O. IN MASSACHUSETTS

**DEAR MARGARET:** Kids are maturing at younger ages than when we were growing up. Part of the reason may be that television, movies and the internet have exposed them to subjects we were not when we were their age. That said, not all of the information they receive from the media and their friends is accurate.

I'm glad you asked because I have a booklet that may be helpful. It's titled "What Every Teen Should Know," and it's filled with information on subjects such as, "How to know when you're ready to date," "Are you ready for sex?" "How old must a boy be before he can father a child?" and

"Can a girl get pregnant the first time she has sex?"

A section on sexually transmitted diseases is also included. Because STDs need to be treated right away and ignoring or not recognizing the symptoms can have lifelong consequences, there is a list of the various STDs and what to do if you have one. You can order a booklet by sending your name and address, plus check or money order for \$7 (U.S. funds) to Dear Abby Teen Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL, 61054-0447. Shipping and handling are included in the price. The Teen booklet has been distributed in doctors' offices and used to promote discussions by educators and religious leaders, as well as parents who find it hard to discuss these topics with their children.

Review it BEFORE giving it to your grandson, so you can prepare beforehand to answer his questions or guide the conversation. The more information you can give him, the better prepared he will be to make intelligent decisions in the important years that lie ahead.

**DEAR ABBY:** I am in my 80s. From time to time, when I

## DEAR ABBY

By ABIGAIL VAN BUREN

UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE



Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Contact Dear Abby at [www.DearAbby.com](http://www.DearAbby.com) or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.

have tried to contact a dear old friend or distant relative, I find they have recently passed away. Don't you think it would be a good idea for older people to make a short list of people we want contacted in case of serious illness or death? So many times our survivors have no idea who some of our friends are or how to contact them.

GARY G. IN GEORGIA

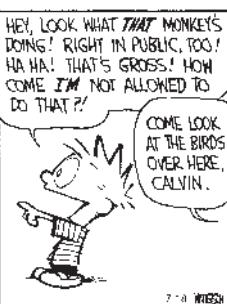
**DEAR GARY:** I think your idea is a sensible one. The list should include not only names, but also contact information. Thank you for sharing this with me and my readers because—let's face it—nobody lives forever.

# Pastimes

## Calvin and Hobbes



By Bill Waterson



## Garfield®



By Jim Davis

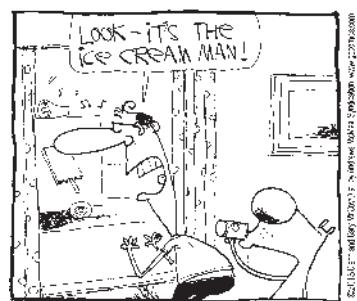


## Adam@home

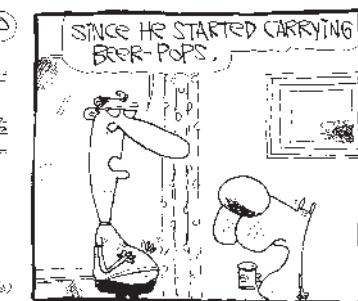


By Bryan Basset

## The Duplex



By Glenn McCoy



## CROSSWORD

By Eugene Sheffer

ACROSS	28	Sailing vessel	DOWN	12	Succinct
1 Young lion	30	Tax pro	1	Pink hue	14 Apportion
4 Clean air org.	33	"The Hang-over"	2	Beehive State	15 Trench
7 Doves' home		actress	3	Dwell on (sheds)	19 Lean—
8 Glorify	36	Noah's landfall	4	Apply, as pressure	20 Cushion
10 Wall painting	37	Designer	5	Legal aides, briefly	21 First half of an LP
11 Minimum	38	Perry	6	Actor Baldwin	22 Coniferous trees
13 Ingredient in a s'more	39	"The March King"	7	Heal	23 Kermit, for one
16 Seminary subj.	40	Like — of bricks	8	Host	24 Visually recognize speech
17 Borscht base	Pvt.'s	superior	9	"For shame,	25 Oom—
18 Capote nick-name	41	Fawn's mom	10	shame!"	26 Heart line
19 Carry			11	Spoken "I dunno"	28 Un-spoken "I dunno"
20 "Hey!"			12	Opposite of most	30 Daphnis' love
21 Sports-cast offering			13	Ache	31 Ache
23 Bit of snow			14	Early hrs.	32 Early hrs.
25 Slapstick arsenal			15		34 New Mexico resort
26 Desertlike			16		35 Sax range
27 Do sums			17		
			18		
			19		
			20		
			21		
			22		
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Yesterday's answer 7-18

CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY: Chace Crawford, 33; Kristen Bell, 38; Vin Diesel, 51; Wendy Williams, 54.

**Happy Birthday:** Look at the possibilities; structure how you proceed based on what you want to achieve. A dream can turn into a reality if you are willing to accept the changes necessary to reach your goal. Trade-offs may be emotionally difficult, but in the end, the benefits will outweigh the initial losses. Think big and focus on forward motion. Your numbers are 9, 16, 21, 23, 26, 35, 41.

**ARIES** (March 21-April 19): Constructive criticism can help you make an adjustment that will put you in the running for something special. Pitch in and help someone who can offer you something in return. A personal change will improve your emotional outlook. **★★★**

**TAURUS** (April 20-May 20): Live and learn. What you experience or observe today will help you initiate the personal changes you want to make in your personal life or to the way you take care of yourself physically. A change in status or reputation will follow. **★★★**

**GEMINI** (May 21-June 20): Get emotional issues out of the way. Discussing what you'd like to see happen will clear the way for better days ahead. Expand your options and be willing to make concessions if it will help you get what you want. **★★★★**

**CANCER** (June 21-July 22): Don't lose sight of what you want to achieve. Much can be accomplished if you set your emotions aside and concentrate on how best to get along with those who can help you make your

dreams come true. **★★**

**LEO** (July 23-Aug. 22): Take care of emotional matters concerning a partner or relative. Listen and respond to what others have to say. Making a fuss will not solve anything. Compromise. An item you thought you lost will be found. **★★★★**

**VIRGO** (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): Don't put too much onus on what others are doing. Follow through with your plans, and make the changes that support your efforts. A physical improvement will boost your confidence. Romance will bring you closer to someone you love. **★★★**

**LIBRA** (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): Consider how best to use your energy. Fixing or rearranging something that will improve your living or working conditions will ward off criticism or complaints. Make your plans simple, effective and, most of all, affordable. Keep the peace. **★★★**

**TAURUS** (April 20-May 20): Live and learn. What you experience or observe today will help you initiate the personal changes you want to make in your personal life or to the way you take care of yourself physically. A change in status or reputation will follow. **★★★**

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**CANCER** (June 21-July 22): Don't lose sight of what you want to achieve. Much can be accomplished if you set your emotions aside and concentrate on how best to get along with those who can help you make your

**SAGITTARIUS** (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): Look for ideas that have substance and can offer the kind of return you need to make it worth your while to explore. Insight, experience and knowledge will help you uncover exactly what's needed to succeed. **★★★★**

## EUGENIA LAST

THE LAST WORD IN ASTROLOGY



COURTESY 2007 UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE

**CAPRICORN** (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): Be careful how you word things. Someone will get the wrong impression, causing emotional fallout if you aren't diplomatic in the way you approach sensitive subjects. Romance and commitment will lead to personal stability and positive change. **★★**

**AQUARIUS** (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): Don't forget to tuck away some money for something you want. Investing time and money in the future will bring better results than squandering your money by trying to keep up with someone who isn't the best influence. Choose to be practical. **★★★★**

**PISCES** (Feb. 19-March 20): Look for a creative outlet that will give you the opportunity to use your skills. What you come up with will surprise others and bring you the recognition you desire. Socialize with people who show support. Celebrate with someone you love. **★★**

**Birthday Baby:** You are outgoing, generous and receptive. You are goal-oriented and determined. To submit astrological questions to the "Dear Eugenia" column, visit Eugenialast.com, or join Eugenia on Twitter/Facebook/LinkedIn.

## SUDOKU

Conceptis Sudoku

By Dave Green

	9	5	2	1
3	5	1		9
6	2		8	
	3	7		
7		1		
6	9	2	4	
7	6		8	9
9	1		6	4
3			1	

Difficulty Level ★★★

Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Saturday.

Yesterday's Answer

4	6	3	1	2	9	5	8	7
8	9	5	3	7	6	1	4	2
2	1	7	4	8	5	6	3	9
6	2	8	9	5	7	3	1	4
9	3	4	2	1	8	7	6	5
5	7	1	6	4	3	9	2	8
1	8	9	7	3	2	4	5	6
3	5	6	8	9	4	2	7	1
7	4	2	5	6	1	8	9	3

Difficulty Level ★★★

By DAVID OUELLET

TERIYAKI SAUCE

Solution: 8 letters

I B R N U N J S R E Z A L G M  
F H K A O S V A E M I L B A I  
I S S O A I G L P L Y L R R R  
L S D U N U N M W A E I O L I  
L L T E S S B O I L N R I I N  
E E G I M D B N S A O G L C W  
T A H S R A E R D A H I A H T  
R E K A S F S E E I E N I R E  
E G I N G E R E S H U S S O C  
T N R A M E N Y S T K Q P V U  
A I K A E T S K A B O S I A A  
W T N E K C I H C I R K C L S  
L A O C R A H C I I R I E F Y  
C O N D I M E N T O H M S N O  
E C I R G A R U P M E T L A S

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Boil, Bowl, Broil, Charcoal, Chicken, Coating, Condiment, Fillet, Flavor, Garlic, Ginger, Glaze, Grill, Herbs, Honey, Japan, Lime, Liquid, Marinade, Mirin, Noodle, Onion, Pork, Ramen, Rice, Rich, Sake, Salmon, Salt, Sauté, Season, Seeds, Sesame, Skim, Soak, Soba, Soy Sauce, Spices, Steak, Stir-fry, Sugar, Sushi, Tempura, Thai, Thickness, Tuna, Vinegar, Water, Whisk  
Yesterday's Answer Photocall  
Treasures 13 through 29 can be purchased online at www.WonderWordBooks.com.

STUMPED?

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## MICRONESIA CNMI

RENEWABLE ENERGY INC.



## CNMI Solar Energy Sales Manager

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## Job Position

Micronesia Renewable Energy, Inc. is currently recruiting a Solar Energy Sales Managers for our Commonwealth of the Northern Marianas Islands Region. This position is responsible for supporting MRE sales strategy, working independently and with the MRE Executive team to expand MRE sales opportunities with residential and commercial customers in these areas. This position also includes gathering competitive data to help MRE develop strategies to grow faster in this market. This position will be stationed in the CNMI to help build a structured sales force, train and enforce quotas on the sales teams in these areas.

## Primary responsibilities for this position include, but are not limited to:

- Meet and exceed objectives by creating and executing sales strategy to expand market share and maximizing revenue growth in assigned territories.
- Establish, qualify, develop and maintain relationships with new and existing sales people.
- Train sales staff at these locations ensuring that integrity and structure, procedures and policies are maintained.
- Work with cross-functional departments within MRE to coordinate the involvement of company personnel, including but not limited marketing, operations, support groups and management resources to meet customer objectives and expectations.
- Train sales people to generate, develop and qualify leads and prospects through cold-calling and other lead generation activities.
- Develop sales presentation collateral and project proposals that include marketing, technical and financial information to close key contracts.
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- Excellent analytical ability and strong communication skills, with the ability to create and present compelling proposals.
- Strong organization skills detailed and process orientation.
- Excellent interpersonal skills, a collaborative style and the ability to communicate effectively at all levels.
- Skilled in the use and knowledge of Microsoft Office Suite including Excel, PowerPoint, Word, Outlook, etc.
- Must possess a valid driver's license and passport and can travel domestically and internationally, as required.
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# Hometown hero Harper rules HR Derby

**WASHINGTON** (AP)—The ball cleared the center field wall, and the sellout crowd roared. Bryce Harper threw his bat in the air, thrust both index fingers skyward and yelled with delight as a shower of streamers rained upon the crowd of 43,698.

It could have been a scene from a playoff game. That it was merely the All-Star Home Run Derby mattered not to Harper or the Washington Nationals fans, who were thrilled to see their hometown hero deliver the night's final longball Monday.

In the midst of it all—and in the middle of trying season—Harper grabbed the microphone and said: “This crowd: Wow! Washington Nationals, baby!”

With an exceptional display of power and clutch hitting, Harper rallied in the final round, connecting on pitches from his father to beat Kyle Schwarber of the Chicago Cubs 19-18.

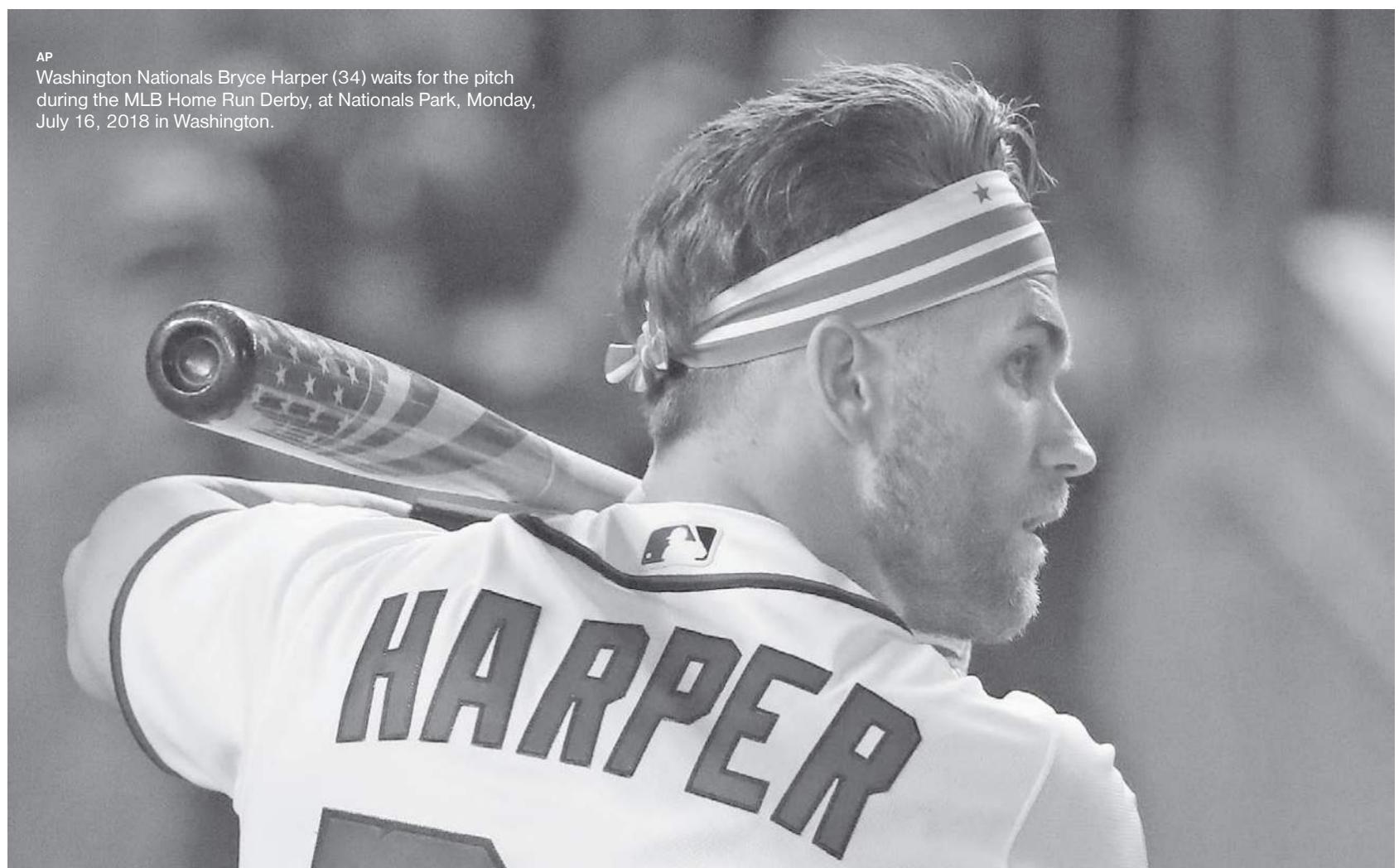
Harper hit the contest-winning blast in extra time, the reward for hitting two homers at least 440 feet during the 4 minutes of regulation. After he connected with the game winner, the Nationals star immediately went into celebration mode.

“We have some of the best fans in all of baseball, and to be able to that with my family out there, that’s an incredible moment, not only for me but for the organization and the Nationals fans,” Harper said.

Harper’s teammate, Max Scherzer, the NL starter on Tuesday night, also appreci-

AP

Washington Nationals Bryce Harper (34) waits for the pitch during the MLB Home Run Derby, at Nationals Park, Monday, July 16, 2018 in Washington.



ated the moment.

“It’s awesome. Hometown,” Scherzer said. “The crowd is behind him. He found some rhythm, kept it simple and just continued to hit home run after home run.”

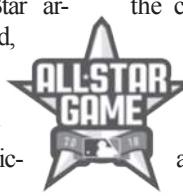
Wearing a headband that resembled the District of Columbia flag and displaying a right sleeve with stars and stripes, Harper trailed 18-9 with 1:20 left before rallying. He homered on

nine of his last 10 swings before entering extra time.

The six-time All-Star arranged to have his dad, Ron, pitch to him in the annual contest on the eve of the All-Star Game. That made the victory even sweeter.

“I’m only as good as my BP guy,” Harper said with a grin.

Hours before the session,



Harper spoke excitedly about having his dad pitch to him in the contest. The 25-year-old said his father “worked his tail off every single day to provide for me and my family” and “now being able to have him throw to me in a big league ballpark is the cherry on top.”

Afterward, Ron Harper said of his son: “He did great. So

I’m really proud of him. He’s a great kid. You couldn’t ask for anything better.”

It’s been a tough year for Harper, who’s hitting only .214 for the disappointing Nationals. He won a contest that many sluggers avoid, fearful it might wear them out and throw them off.

He can only hope this helps him get back into the swing.

The 2015 NL MVP beat Freddie Freeman of the Atlanta Braves and Max Muncy of the Dodgers before trouncing the fifth-seeded Schwarber, who put the pressure on with a solid outing before Harper stepped to the plate.

“As soon as I got done with that round I told myself that (Harper) had it,” Schwarber said. “I knew that he had the home crowd behind him.”

Harper, who has 23 home runs this season, advanced to the final with an astonishing spree of longball hitting. He trailed Max Muncy of the Dodgers 12-4 with 2:20 left, then peeled off six homers in 47 seconds before calling a timeout.

Harper returned to hit three more home runs in 22 seconds, the last of them inside the right-field foul pole.

The semifinal matchup between Schwarber and Philadelphia’s Rhys Hoskins went down to the final swing. After stunning top-seed Jesus Aguilar of Milwaukee in the opening round, the eighth-seeded Hoskins ripped 20 long balls to put the pressure on Schwarber.

Using a late surge, Schwarber pulled one ball after another over the right field wall to squeeze out a 21-20

victory—by far the highest-scoring matchup of the night.

The fans dutifully cheered most home runs during the first round, but they saved their loudest cheers for Harper, the last player to step to the plate.

After Freeman hit 12 home runs over the 4-minute span, Harper unleashed six shots of at least 440 feet and secured the victory with a drive to center long before the clock expired. As the ball cleared the wall, the left-handed hitting Harper walked out of the batter’s box and thrust both arms in the air.

Milwaukee’s Aguilar, the NL home run leader at the break, was eliminated in the opening round by Hoskins 17-12.

Aguilar hit too many balls to straightaway center, where the wall stands over 400 feet from the plate. Hoskins pumped most of his drives into the left-field seats, where it’s 336 feet down the line.

The most thrilling first-round match featured a near buzzer-beater by Houston’s Alex Bregman, who fell to Schwarber 16-15. The difference was the pair of homers that Schwarber hit during 30 seconds of extra time.

Bregman—the lone AL representative—appeared defeated with a minute left, but he mounted a late surge and lost when his final swing produced a drive that landed at the base of the center-field wall.

Muncy advanced by defeating No. 6 seed Javier Baez of the Cubs, 16-15. Baez hit the longest shot of the Derby, a 479-footer.

## Altuve, Betts bring compact pop to All-Star Game

**WASHINGTON** (AP)—In decades past they would have been given nicknames like “Pee Wee” and coached to shorten their swings, keep the ball close to the ground, find holes and use their speed to leg out base hits.

Now, “small ball” has a new meaning. This homer-happy era of baseball is proving that big sluggers can be found in in tiny packages.

Consider some of the guys in Tuesday night’s All-Star Game: Jose Ramirez, all 5-foot-9 and 165 pounds of him, whose 29 homers at the break are tied for the AL lead. Mookie Betts, also 5-foot-9, has 23 long balls and hit 31 last season. Ozzie Albies, who at age 21 could maybe hope for a late growth spurt, is 5-foot-8 and has 20 homers.

And of course there’s the best inch-for-inch hitter in baseball, 5-foot-6 Jose Altuve, the three-time batting champion who’s gone deep nine times this year but hit 24 homers in each of the past

two seasons.

“You look around this room, it’s not just big guys. It’s guys of all sizes,” said first-time All-Star Alex Bregman, who’s listed at 6 feet, 180 pounds and has 20 homers. “What you see are ballplayers. You don’t have to be big to be a ballplayer. You have to have the skills.”

And their skills are holding up just fine against giants like Aaron Judge (6-foot-7, 282 pounds, 25 homers), J.D. Martinez (6-foot-3, 220 pounds, 29 homers), Jesus Aguilar (6-foot-3, 250 pounds, 24 homers) and the consensus best hitter in the game with the ideal body type to match, Mike Trout (6-foot-2, 235 pounds, 25 homers).

Altuve credits hitters who understand how to maximize their physical tools.

“In Mookie, I see quick hands and a really good lower body, hitting-wise, and I can see why he hits a lot of home runs,” Altuve said. “I would say it’s more technique than strength

now for hitting homers.”

Justin Verlander knows he can’t relax when he’s on the mound against a player like Altuve, his Astros teammate. Size doesn’t matter. Bat speed does.

“I think it’s part of the change of the game. I’ve talked to Jose about it. He’s changed himself a few years back and started swinging more aggressively,” Verlander said. “You didn’t used to see guys like that were small that ... had that kind of pop. Oppo (opposite field) pop. That’s the big thing that’s changed, homers to opposite field. That’s something I didn’t used to see much except with guys like Miguel Cabrera. Now you’re seeing it with almost everybody.”

Baseball appears to be headed for a reckoning with the ugly side of hitters’ power-first approach. Defensive shifts, obsession with launch angles and indifference to strikeouts are being blamed for everything from increasing the length of games to

making the sport more dull and one-dimensional. There is talk of banning shifts or forcing relief pitchers to face more than one batter in order to generate more excitement and incentivize putting balls in play.

But there might be an upside to a more egalitarian sport in which players aren’t expected to change their approach for no reason other than their stature.

Betts knows that a decade or two ago, he might have been coached differently.

“Probably get it on the ground, use my speed. Times have changed,” Betts said. “We, as in small guys, may not be as big and strong, but we can pack the power. I think that’s just one of those things we have to go out and show.”

And there are competing theories about what’s allowed smaller guys to flex their compact muscles.

Verlander gave the one-word answer a pitcher might be expected to give: “Baseballs.”

# World Cup win gives France new set of heroes

**PARIS** (AP)—The welcome was grand, the emotion visceral as France's victorious World Cup team rolled down Paris' Champs-Elysees Avenue in an open-top bus Monday while tens of thousands of people cheered with unrestrained pride and jets streamed the national colors—blue, white, red—overhead.

The crowd that waited for hours to greet the soccer team, under a hot sun and amid celebratory smoke bombs that choked the air, got its moment hours after the team returned from Russia to hoist the gold trophy on French soil for the second time in 20 years.

The national team's 4-2 win over Croatia on Sunday gave France a new set of heroes, many of whom represent the changing face of a diverse, multicultural country with which not all French citizens have yet reckoned.

The red carpet welcome for the World Cup winners continued at the Elysee Palace, where President Emmanuel Macron threw an informal garden party that had 1,000 children and 300 athletes from local soccer clubs as guests.

Many of the invited clubs are based in the poor neighborhoods French that produced the players who made up France's youthful, diverse World Cup team, including 19-year-old breakout star Kylian Mbappe. Members of the club he grew up with in suburban Bondy attended the party.

"Merci!" Macron, the youngest person to become France's president, told the guests. "This team is beautiful because it was united."

Addressing the team, Macron offered advice.

"Don't change," he said, adding, "Never forget where you come from."



France's Raphael Varane holds the trophy as he celebrates with teammates on the roof of a bus while parading down the Champs-Elysee avenue, in Paris, Monday, July 16, 2018. France welcomed home the national soccer team for a parade down the Champs-Elysees, where tens of thousands thronged after the team's 4-2 victory over Croatia Sunday.

Police said more than 250,000 people came out in central Zagreb and many more along the route. The players' bus traveled for hours, often stopping when it was blocked by the crowds.

"Thank you Croatia, thank you Zagreb!" captain Luka Modric, who won the Golden Ball after being voted the best player of the World Cup, told the crowd after the team finally arrived at the central square in the evening.

Midfielder Ivan Rakitic added, "There are no words to describe how we feel now!"

The players lined up to sing the national anthem with the packed square thundering in joy. Right-wing nationalist singer Marko Perkovic Thompson joined in toward the end, singing a couple of songs.

Thousands of fans, many coming from other parts of the country, began arriving in the center in the early morning and emergency medical services said they aided hundreds of fans who collapsed from exhaustion. City authorities brought in water tanks to the city center.

Fans honking car horns, waving and shouting "Bravo! Bravo!" welcomed the bus as it slowly left the airport. The inscription at the front read: "Fiery heart, the pride of Croatia!" in reference to the name "The Fiery" as the team is dubbed at home.

Team captain and goalie Hugo Lloris, brandishing the trophy from soccer's eminent tournament, and coach Didier Deschamps led the team onto the red carpet at the Elysee courtyard. With Republican Guards standing motionless in full dress uniforms, the squad quickly broke into party mode for the official photos.

The fun continued in the garden with chants led by midfielder Paul Pogba and off-the-cuff songs.

The victory came at a time when many French were in need of good news, and the magic provided a sense that a grand coming together might

at least paper over political, economic and social fissures for a while.

"Eternal Happiness" read Monday's headline in French sports daily L'Equipe, summing up the mood of many who hoped the euphoria would last.

Before the reception, the Champs-Elysees became the epicenter of national pride for the third day in a row, following the post-World Cup celebrations that brought hundreds of thousands to the famous avenue Sunday and a Bastille Day parade of French military might Saturday.



The team appeared elated, too, during its victory lap on the bus Monday. Players threw scarves into the crowd and recorded the action.

Several Paris Metro stations were temporarily adjusting their names to honor the team and its members, the transport authority tweeted. The Champs-Elysees Clemenceau has become the Deschamps-Elysees Clemenceau to honor coach Didier Deschamps.

## More than 250,000 welcome Croatia home

In Zagreb, an outburst of

national pride and joy, Croatia rolled out a red carpet and staged a euphoric heroes' welcome for the national team on Monday despite its loss to France in the World Cup final.

Hundreds of thousands of people wearing national red-and-white checkered colors and waving Croatian flags poured into the streets in the capital Zagreb to greet the team. Observers described the homecoming event as the biggest ever in Croatia.

The joyful, singing crowd crammed the central squares and the route where the players passed in an open bus, greeting fans and signing autographs.

out of Miami. He's also a key voice in the Heat locker room, and if Miami is going to get out of the first round Ellington will likely have to play a key role.

## RAJON RONDO \$9M, one year, Los Angeles Lakers

Rondo and LeBron James have had battles aplenty over the years. Don't think for one second that James wasn't down with the Lakers making this move. On the day before Game 4 of the NBA Finals, the day before James' last game as a member of the Cleveland Cavaliers, he told a story about facing Boston many years earlier and being impressed with the way "Rondo was calling out sets every time" down the floor. James values smarts in teammates and Rondo has plenty of smarts, so if this works the \$9 million will be a pittance to the Lakers.



**NEW YORK** (AP)—Even after roughly \$1.5 billion in new contracts were hammered out during the first two weeks of free agency, there is still plenty of shopping for NBA teams to do over the coming weeks.

Most of it will be for bargains.

The biggest deals of NBA summer—like Chris Paul, Paul George and LeBron James getting contracts that will pay them a combined \$450 million over the next four years—are almost certainly all done. A blockbuster trade involving San Antonio's Kawhi Leonard can obviously still happen, and at some point Carmelo Anthony's exit from Oklahoma City to a new home, mostly likely Houston, will get finalized.

But most teams have ex-

hausted their salary cap space for next season, so the annual shift into fill-out-the-roster mode has essentially arrived for the majority of clubs.

Here's a look at some of the bargains that have already been found this summer, and a look at others who are bargains waiting to happen:

### ISAIAH THOMAS \$2M, one year, Denver

It seems so long ago that Thomas was averaging 30 points and answering questions about the max contract he would be signing. Except it wasn't a long time ago -- it was at the 2017 All-Star Game. So much has happened in the last 17 months, and Thomas playing through a hip

injury has clearly cost him tens of millions, at least temporarily. Now he's starting anew in Denver, with a coach in Michael Malone who believes fully in him, and that chip Thomas had as a No. 60 overall draft pick is squarely back on his diminutive shoulder. His massive deal may be waiting, but consider this: No fewer than 33 players will make more this coming season than Thomas has made in his entire career. "It's all good though... I'll just stay on that slow grind," Thomas said on social media after agreeing with the Nuggets.

### DEMARCUS COUSINS \$5.3M, one year, Golden State

This could go down as the bargain of the summer, if Cousins returns to previous

form and fits his enormous game—and enormous personality—into the Golden State system. When he comes back from his Achilles tendon injury, the Warriors could have five players from the 2018 All-Star Game in their starting lineup. Had he not gotten hurt in January, somebody would be paying at least \$20 million and probably a lot more to Cousins this season. If this experiment works, and if the Warriors are healthy at playoff time, a fourth championship in five seasons will be the way Golden State closes out its time at Oracle Arena.

### JUSUF NURKIC \$48M, four years, Portland

Not all bargains are for small

# DYS, MCS successfully hold sportsfest

By FAHIM UDDIN  
fahimuddin489@gmail.com  
REPORTER

The Division of Youth Services and Mount Carmel School hosted the 2018 CNMI Church League Sportsfest at the MCS court from July 11-14.

The sportsfest held a variety of activities for children and young adults to take part in, such as basketball, ultimate Frisbee, and volleyball.

In the competition, the church parishes of Mount Carmel, San Jose, San Jose on Tinian, Santa Remedios, Kristo Rai, St. Jude, San Vicente, and San Roque formed a team for basketball and volleyball activities.

As for the ultimate frisbee competition, only four teams joined the tournament—San Jose Tinian, San Antonio, Kristo Rai, and Mount Carmel.

Coordinator Gerald De Guzman said they've been holding the sportsfest annually to remind the parishes they're one big family.

"The purpose is to bring the churches and community together for an event of sportsmanship and camaraderie," he said.

For the results, Mount Carmel bested San Jose, Tinian in the final basketball match 99-63. In volleyball, San Jose defeated San Jose, Tinian, 15-10. San Jose, Tinian also took home the ultimate frisbee trophy by overcoming San Antonio in the



CONTRIBUTED PHOTOS  
Participants in the 2018 CNMI Church League Sportsfest pose for a photo at the conclusion of the event.



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO  
Team Mount Carmel players pose for a photo after defeating Team San Jose Tinian in the 2018 CNMI Church League Sportsfest at the MCS court last week.

## KING

From Page 28

marlin category instead of the giant perpetual trophy where all the grand prize winners' names were etched.

Joining *King Fisher* in the Top 3 in the marlin division were Francisco Mendiola's *O'Dear* and Diego Benavente's *Victoria*. *O'Dear* reeled in a 334-lb marlin last Sunday, while *Victoria* brought to the dock its 302lb catch last Saturday.

In other categories, the first

place winners were *Padre De Familia* (skipjack tuna), *O'Dear* (yellow fin tuna), *Bella* (wahoo), and *Olei* (mahi).

The Francisco Mendiola-skipped *Padre De Familia* came to Smiling Cove dock with its 16.6-lb skipjack tuna last Saturday. *Bunita* of captain Mike Fleming had the second heaviest catch in the same category with its 16.1-lb tuna, which was also caught on Day 1 of the tournament.

*Debbie I* completed the Top 3 with its 15.9-lb tuna that was

reeled in, too last Saturday.

In the yellow fin division, *O'Dear*'s 57-lb catch came last Sunday and it beat the 55.8lb of the Marky Ngiraklang-captained *Olei*. Both boats are from Guam, while Saipan's *Sweet Candy* of captain George Moses got the third place honors with its 54.8-lb yellow fin.

In the wahoo category, *Bella*, which is lead by Superior Court Associate Judge Perry B. Inos Sr., brought home a 26.3-lb wahoo last Saturday to prevail against the 23.9-lb wa-

hoo of *Sweet Candy* and 23.8 pounds of Heinz Hofschneider's *Cabo Express*.

In the mahi category, *Olei* was the runaway winner with its 12.2-lb catch, while *Victoria* and *10-7* came in at second and third after reeling in 4.1 lbs and 3.9 lbs, respectively.

The Top 3 placers in each category received trophies patterned after the fish they caught and cash and in-kind prizes during the awards ceremony held at the Pacific Islands Club Saipan last Mon-

In the women's long jump Pangelinan was ranked fifth with her 4.33m, while Jerlyn Castillo came in at sixth after logging 4.18m to beat two athletes from Palau, one from Pohnpei, and fellow CNMI bet Leani Acosta (3.87m). Tugade also topped the event with her 4.95m.

In the men's 400m run, Schmidt qualified to the medal round after placing second on Heat 2. He recorded 53.90 seconds to rank No. 6 overall in the preliminary races and notch one of the eight slots to the finals. Chuuk's Kiudone

David topped the field with his 52.89 seconds on Heat 2, while compatriot Francis Rikit ruled Heat 1 and had the second fastest qualifying time with his 53.21 seconds. The CNMI's Traven Quitugua (1:03.07) and Neldreyton Skerei (1:03.91) missed the cut.

In the discus throw, Ron Olopai finished fifth with his 29.23m heave, while Tony Ichiuo came in at ninth after registering 24.52m.

In the 100m run, Quitugua broke the 12-second mark with his 11.99, but he failed to advance to the medal race,

while Gabriel Sappa also did not make the grade after checking in at 12.23 seconds. Nauru's Jonah Harris won the gold with his 11.07 seconds, while Palau's Rodman Teltull (11.10 seconds) and Chuuk's Scott Fiti (11.22) took the silver and bronze medals, respectively.

Meanwhile, Guam leads the medal tally in the Micro Games as of press time yesterday afternoon. It had a 7-3-2 gold-silver-bronze medal haul. Palau had five golds, two silver, and two bronze, while Pohnpei recorded 3-6-2 tally.

In its debut game, the Commonwealth cagebelles were behind early, 21-40, and fell short in their comeback bid in the second half.

finals, 11-7.

On July 11, San Jose, Tinian teams playing for each varied sport matchups arrived on Saipan and settled in the Aquarius Beach Tower for the night, showcasing their island pride.

Tinian resident Manuel Quitugua recounts the pressure on standing as a different islander. "I felt that representing my island and my church was a great experience once again for my second year. It [was] nerve-wracking performing and participating in a different island, even if I did join the year before," said Quitugua.

He then added, "At the end of the day, it's the sportsmanship and friendships you

make along the way."

Jayrald Mercene, representing the Mount Carmel team, expressed his perspective on this year church league, "This helps the youth community by bringing in kids and young adults together to make friends through playing sports," he said.

During the noon activity, Guzman also decided to organize special contests like the obstacle course and eating contest just to entertain the youth.

According to the registration results, a total of 241 people, including Tinian residents, signed up to participate in the sportsfest. Additionally, Guzman believes the audience comprised over 200 people.

75-66. The Elias Rangamar-coached CNMI was very much in the game after the first half with Pohnpei ahead by only a hair, 35-34.

Rangamar's wards were back at the court yesterday and was scheduled to face Palau, which suffered a 77-61 beating from Guam in the opening day.

## Swimming, volleyball teams arrive

The islands' swimmers and volleyball players (men's) are now in Yap and ready to compete in their respective events.

The swim team is made up of Anthony Camacho-Deleon Guerrero, Kento and Taiyo Akimaur, Jinnosuke and Lennosuke Suzuki, Sophia Gauran, Nelson Batallo, David Boyer, John Tenorio, Kiana Villagomez, and coach Jacoby Winkfield. They will compete in the 2.5K and 5K individual events and relay open water swims at the Yap Marina, beginning this Friday.

The Shawn Davis-coached CNMI volleyball crew is composed of Ryan R. Camacho, Mychal Omar, Alfredo Guevarra, Jr., Jerrett Rosario, Danilo Borlaine, Nakashima "Billy" Nakashima, Don Marshall Cabrera, John Neikaifes, John Michael Costales, Logan Mister, Nick Gross, Tahj Salas, and Eric Kiser. Final schedule of the volleyball games has yet to be posted, but the initial report had the CNMI facing Guam Yap, Chuuk, Pohnpei, and Palau.

In other news, the CNMI's Kevin Muna finished seventh in the individual spearfishing competition with his total catch of 70.5 lbs. John Brel got 41 lbs to rank at No. 10. Guam's Michale Generaux (177.5 lbs) won the gold, while Palau's Luis Ongalibang (143.5 lbs) and Pohnpei's Taylor Paul (126.5 lbs) took the silver and bronze, respectively.

# CNMI at Oceania Swimming Championships

## CONTRIBUTED PHOTOS



Christian Villacrusis races in the 100m breaststroke event during the 12th Oceania Swimming Championships held last month in Papua New Guinea.



Lennosuke Suzuki, right, waits for the start of the race.



Nelson Batallones, left, and Juhn Tenorio enjoy a light moment before resuming their training session.



Team manager Kento Akimaru, second left, checks on the action at the pool, while his fellow CNMI swimmers wait for their turn in the water.



Jinju Thompson, left, and Sophia Gauran pose for a photo at the conclusion of the competition at the Taurama Aquatic and Indoor Centre in Port Moresby.



Jinju Thompson gets ready to plunge into the pool.



The CNMI Swimming Team members and coach Jacoby Winkfield, third back row, wait for the start of the opening ceremony.



The CNMI Swim Team poses for a photo at the Francisco C. Ada/Saipan International Airport before heading to Papua New Guinea to compete in the 12th Oceania Swimming Championships.



Hometown  
hero Harper  
rules HR Derby

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# Saipan Tribune Sports

World Cup  
win gives  
France new  
set of heroes

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28 WEDNESDAY, JULY 18, 2018

SAIPAN TRIBUNE

# Abrams, Schmidt deliver



By ROSELYN B. MONROYO  
roselyn\_monroyo@saipantribune.com  
REPORTER

Multi-sport athlete Rachel Abrams handed the CNMI its first gold medal in the 9th Micronesian Games after ruling the women's high jump event yesterday at the Matson Yap Sports Complex.



## King Fisher, Debbie I prevail in derby

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO  
roselyn\_monroyo@saipantribune.com  
REPORTER

**FISH ON** King Fisher and Debbie I still emerged victorious in the 34th Annual Saipan International Fishing Tournament held over the weekend.

Debbie I, which won last year's grand prize, faltered on its back-to-back bid, but came out on top of the total weight category with their 303.4-lb

ROSELYN B. MONROYO  
King Fisher's anglers and their supporters pose with their 379-lb marlin caught last Saturday during the 34th Annual Saipan International Fishing Tournament.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO  
Rachel Abrams, center, proudly poses for a photo after winning the gold medal in the women's high jump event in the 9th Micronesian Games in Yap yesterday.



Unofficial results had Abrams posting 1.36 meters in the high jump to win the gold—the Commonwealth's second medal in athletics as Zarinae Sapong won the first (silver) in the 100m run last Monday. Later after Abrams' triumph in the women's division, Douglas Schmidt gave Team Marianas its third medal—a silver—after placing runner-up in the men's long jump.

The complete results of the Day 2 events in athletics were unavailable as of press time. The shot put throw (women's), 5,000m run (men's and women's), 400m run (men's and women's) and octathlon were the other events scheduled in the second day of the competition.

In the first day, the CNMI's Jamie Pangelinan was just one step away from making it to the podium after placing fourth in the javelin throw. She recorded 21.39m to finish behind Guam's Genie Gerardo (28.17m), Pohnpei's Sandonia Likor (24.75m), and Palau's Amaya Ngirkelau (22.22m).

In the 100m run, Sapong See ABRAMS on Page 26



Douglas Schmidt, right, joins other long jump winners in the podium during yesterday's medal presentation in the 9th Micronesian Games in Yap.

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## Baseball: CNMI whips Kosrae

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REPORTER

The CNMI Baseball Team got off to a strong start after crushing Kosrae, 13-3, yesterday at the Matson Yap Sports Complex Field.

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